

# WHY AM I AT RISK?

## Have chronic asthma or COPD?

Whooping cough can cause serious health complication in adults with an existing chronic respiratory disease.<sup>5,13</sup>

## 65-years or older?

Our immunity naturally reduces as we age making us more susceptible to illnesses.<sup>5</sup> People aged 65 or older are at 4 to 6 times greater risk of being hospitalised due to whooping cough.<sup>13,14</sup>

If you're in one of these at-risk groups of people, talk to your doctor or healthcare professional about a *Boostrix* vaccination.



1. Pesek R et al. *Allergy* 2011;66:25-31. 2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Updated recommendations for use of tetanus toxoid, reduced diphtheria toxoid, and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine in adults aged 65 years and older - Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). 2012. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2012;61:468-70 3. ESR Pertussis Report February 2019. Available at [https://surv.esr.cri.nz/PDF\\_surveillance/PertussisRpt/2019/](https://surv.esr.cri.nz/PDF_surveillance/PertussisRpt/2019/) PertussisReportFebruary2019.pdf. Accessed 27 March 2019 4. Ministry of Health. Immunisation Handbook 2017 (2nd edition) - March 2018. Wellington: Ministry of Health. Available at <https://www.health.govt.nz/publication/immunisation-handbook-2017> Accessed 11 April 2019 5. Kandeil W et al. *Expert Review of Vaccines*. The burden of pertussis in older adults: what is the role of vaccination? A systematic literature review. Mar 2019. Available at <https://doi.org/10.1080/14760584.2019.1588727> Accessed 5 April 2019. 6. Fine PE. *Epidemiol Rev* 1993, 15:265-302. 7. Ministry of Health. National outbreak of whooping cough declared Media Release, December 2017. Available at: <https://www.health.govt.nz/news-media/media-releases/national-outbreak-whooping-cough-declared>. 8. GlaxoSmithKline New Zealand. *Boostrix* Data Sheet. GSK NZ; Nov 2018. Available at <https://medsafe.govt.nz/consumers/cmi/tb/boostrix.pdf>. Accessed 6 April 2019. 9. GSK Data on file. Perceptive Research. Report on the public understanding of whooping cough survey. October 2017. WISE Boost002068. 10. Marchant CD *Clin Infect Dis*. 2004;39:1581-82. 11. Mattoo S and Cherry JD. *Clin Microbiol Rev*. 2005;18:326-382. 12. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases; Pertussis. Available at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/pert.html#pertussis> Accessed 9 May 2019. 13. Liu BC et al. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2012;55(11):1450-1456. 14. Karki S et al. Science Direct 2015;33(42):5647-5633. Available at <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0264410X15012062> Accessed 9 May 2019

*Boostrix*® (combined diphtheria, tetanus, and acellular pertussis (dTpa or Tdap) vaccine) is available as an injection. *Boostrix* is for booster immunisation of people aged 4 years and older against diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (whooping cough). *Boostrix* is government funded for 11 year olds as part of the national immunisation schedule, and for pregnant women between 28 and 38 weeks gestation. (Category B1). It is also available as a **private-purchase** prescription medicine – you will have to pay normal doctor's visit fees and a prescription charge. A trained pharmacist can also administer *Boostrix* to a person aged 18 years and older. A 0.5 mL dose contains not less than 2.5 LfU of diphtheria toxoid, not less than 5 LfU of tetanus toxoid, and three purified antigens of *Bordetella pertussis* (8mcg of pertussis toxin, 8 mcg of filamentous haemagglutinin, and 2.5 mcg of 69 kDa outer membrane protein). Tell your healthcare professional if you are pregnant or breastfeeding to be informed of the benefits and risks of *Boostrix*. ***Boostrix* should not be administered if** you or your child are hypersensitive to any component of this vaccine or similar vaccines, or have had swelling or disease of the brain after previous pertussis (whooping cough) vaccination, or any problems with blood clotting or the nervous system (such as spasms, epilepsy and brain disease) after earlier immunisation against diphtheria or tetanus. **Common side effects** include fever, irritability, fatigue, malaise, headache, loss of appetite, vomiting and diarrhoea, and local reactions such as pain, redness, bruising, itching, or swelling at the injection site. If you or your child have side effects, see your doctor, pharmacist, or health professional. Additional Consumer Medicine Information for *Boostrix* is available at [www.medsafe.govt.nz](http://www.medsafe.govt.nz). **Ask your doctor if *Boostrix* is right for you or your child.** *Boostrix* is a registered trade mark of the GlaxoSmithKline group of companies. Marketed by GlaxoSmithKline NZ Limited, Auckland.

**Adverse events involving GlaxoSmithKline products should be reported to GSK Medical Information on 0800 808 500.**

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# ARE YOU AN ADULT AT RISK FROM WHOOPING COUGH?<sup>1,2</sup>

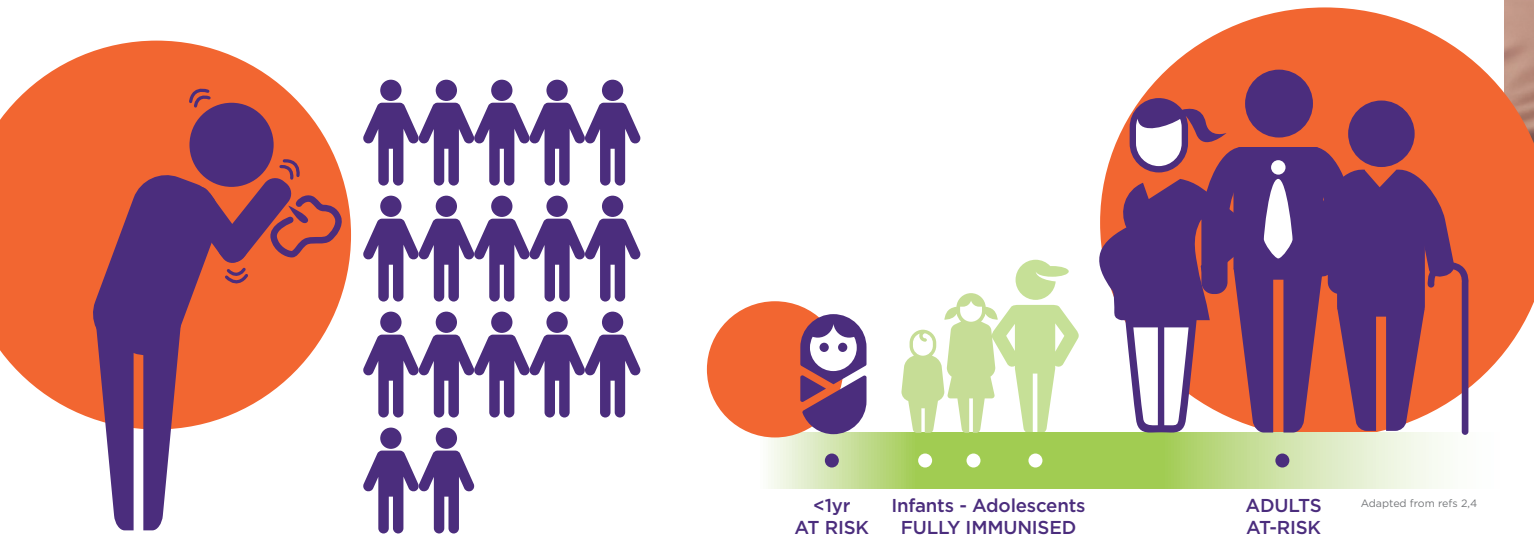
## Have asthma or COPD?

## Over 65-years old?



# WHOOPING COUGH ISN'T JUST A CHILDHOOD DISEASE<sup>3</sup>

Whooping cough (also known as pertussis) is a highly contagious bacterial respiratory disease which can be serious, even life threatening, especially in vulnerable people such as newborns or adults with existing health conditions.<sup>4,5</sup>



## Whooping cough is more contagious than the flu.<sup>6</sup>

One infected person can pass whooping cough on to up to 17 unprotected others.<sup>6</sup>

New Zealand is currently experiencing an ongoing national outbreak.<sup>3,7</sup>

### What is *Boostrix*?

*Boostrix* is a combined diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine.<sup>8</sup> You can ask for *Boostrix* as a booster vaccination for these three life-threatening illnesses at your local GP practice and pharmacies.

## Whooping cough is a vaccine preventable disease.

In New Zealand infants are fully immunised against whooping cough at around 5-months of age. Children also receive boosters at 4 and 11-years as part of the free National Immunisation Schedule.<sup>4</sup>

Our immunity to whooping cough reduces over time, so we need a booster every 10 years to stay fully immunised but most adults are not aware of this.<sup>5,8,9</sup>

## When did you last have a whooping cough booster vaccination?

In healthy adults whooping cough is often difficult to diagnose – you may think you just have persistent cough (often referred to as a 100-day cough).<sup>5,10</sup>

It can however become more than just annoying, causing complications such as:<sup>11,12</sup>

- Urinary incontinence
- Pneumonia
- Rib fractures.

And even life-threatening especially in unprotected newborns and adults with existing health conditions.<sup>4,5</sup>

Not being protected yourself means you could easily pass on this highly contagious disease without knowing you had it in the first place.<sup>4,5</sup>

## Visiting children under 5-months?

Infants aren't fully immunised until around 5-months of age so make sure you get a *Boostrix* vaccination because their protection starts with you.<sup>4</sup>