

May 24, 2017

Attention: Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Hospitals - Emergency Rooms / Infection Control / Occupational Health, Walk-In Clinics

RE: RECENT PERTUSSIS ACTIVITY IN THE HKPRDHU JURISDICTION

The Health Unit has been notified of two related pertussis cases in Haliburton, Ontario.

Pertussis should be considered in individuals presenting with symptoms compatible with pertussis including:

- Paroxysmal cough of any duration **OR**
- Cough ending in vomiting, or associated with apnea **OR**
- Cough with inspiratory “whoop” **OR**
- Any cough illness lasting two weeks or more

If clients present to your office with symptoms of pertussis, please test them following the diagnostic test recommendations from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (link below). Locally, pertussis kits can be ordered from the Ontario Public Health Laboratory in Peterborough by calling 705-743-6811.

Diagnostic Test Recommendations for Pertussis

<http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/pub/disease/pertussis.html>

Pertussis (Whooping Cough) – Fact Sheet

http://www.hkpr.on.ca/Portals/0/PDF%20Files%20-%20CDC/FACT_pertussis_Dec2014.pdf

Please continue to immunize as recommended in the “Publicly Funded Immunization Schedules for Ontario December 2016”. http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/immunization/docs/immunization_schedule.

Please notify the Health Unit of all individuals who are being tested for pertussis and continue to report suspect and confirmed cases.

If you have any questions about this notice, please contact the Health Unit and ask to speak with a nurse in the Communicable Disease Control, Epidemiology & Evaluation Department.

NOTE: For easier access to the above web links, visit the Health Unit website (www.hkpr.on.ca) for electronic copies of all current – and previous – editions of *FAX Facts*. Go to the ‘Resources & Forms’ header at the top of the web page, and use the drop-down menu to click on the ‘Health Care Professionals’ section (a link to FAX Facts is posted there). A direct link is also provided below: www.hkpr.on.ca/ResourcesForms/HealthCareProfessionals/FAXFacts.aspx

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905-885-9100

After Hours
1-888-255-7839