

# PARAPERTUSSIS PARENT FACT SHEET

## PARENT/GUARDIAN

Your child may have been exposed to: PARAPERTUSSIS

Parapertussis is a bacterial illness similar to pertussis (whooping cough) but it tends to be milder and for a shorter duration.

### Need to stay home?

No, if the child is healthy enough for routine activities.

### Symptoms

Your child may have a runny nose, sneezing, or mild coughing. Your child may cough in sudden, uncontrollable bursts. The cough may end with whooping sounds and/or vomiting.

If your child has been infected, it takes 6 to 21 days (usually 7 to 10 days) for symptoms to start.

### Spread

- By coughing or sneezing.

### Contagious Period

Unknown, but likely to be most contagious at the time of early cold-like symptoms.

### Call your Healthcare Provider

Someone in your home has:

- Had a cough for 7 days or longer. Your healthcare provider may want to test for the bacteria. Antibiotics may be given.

### Prevention

- Cover nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing. Use a tissue or your sleeve. Dispose of used tissues.
- Wash hands after touching anything that could be contaminated with secretions from the nose or mouth. Your child may need help with hand washing.
- Clean and disinfect anything that comes in contact with secretions from the nose or mouth. Use a product that kills germs.

For more information, please contact your local health department.

[Carson City Health & Human Services](#) (Carson City, Douglas, Lyon Counties) 775-434-1690 & 775-887-2190 (after hours)

[Central Nevada Health District](#) (Churchill, Mineral, Eureka, Pershing Counties) 775-866-7535

[Northern Nevada Public Health](#) (Washoe County) 775-328-2447 (24 hours)

[Southern Nevada Health District](#) (Clark County) 775-759-1300 (24 hours)

[Division of Public and Behavioral Health](#) (All other Counties) 775-400-0333 (24 hours)

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