



BC PharmaCare Newsletter

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FRASER HEALTH PERTUSSIS OUTBREAK—IMMUNIZATION CAMPAIGN

In January 2012, an outbreak alert for pertussis (whooping cough) was announced by the Fraser Health Authority. Reports of confirmed cases in the Fraser Region began in August 2011 and by the end of January 2012 more than 80 cases had been confirmed.

At this time, Fraser Health Region pharmacists authorized to administer immunizations are being invited to participate in the outbreak response.

Public health continues to monitor pertussis activity and pharmacists outside the Fraser Health area will be alerted if their assistance is required.

Fraser Health Region pharmacists, please note:

- A publicly funded supply of pertussis-containing vaccine (Adacel®) will be available as of **February 22, 2012**, and immunizing pharmacists will be able to administer it to eligible residents at no charge.
- A pharmacist resource guide for the publicly funded pertussis vaccine can be found at www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/pdf/TdapGuide.pdf. The guide includes information on:
 - ordering vaccine,
 - administering vaccine,
 - pick-up procedures, and
 - payment.



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