

March 7, 2018

## New Guidelines from NACI: Pertussis Vaccination in Pregnancy

The Canadian National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) now recommends **vaccinating with Tdap in every pregnancy, between 27 and 32 weeks of gestation.**

- Vaccination in pregnancy is safe for the baby and mom, and is effective to prevent neonatal infection.
- Vaccination is recommended irrespective of previous immunization history or the interval between pregnancies due to rapid waning maternal antibody.
- Tdap immunization may be provided from 13 weeks up to the time of delivery based on unique patient considerations such as risk of preterm birth.
- One adult dose of Tdap is publicly funded in Ontario

### Background

Hospitalization for pertussis infection are greatest among babies less than two months of age. With increasing pertussis outbreaks in Canada, routine maternal vaccination will provide better protection for infants. Tdap vaccination in pregnancy has been shown to protect 9 of 10 infants, less than three months of age, against pertussis.

Many countries have already incorporated Tdap vaccination in pregnancy as part of routine adult immunization program. No increased risk of serious adverse pregnancy, maternal or infant events have been reported in these countries. Similarly, no serious adverse events have been detected in Canada through CAEFIS (*Canadian Adverse Events Following Immunization Surveillance*).

### Source

An Advisory Committee Statement – [National Advisory Committee on Immunization \(NACI\) Update on Immunization in Pregnancy with Tetanus Toxoid, Reduced Diphtheria Toxoid and Reduced Acellular Pertussis \(Tdap\) Vaccine](#). February 2018.