

Your child may have been exposed to:

Parapertussis

Parapertussis is a bacterial illness similar to pertussis (whooping cough) but it tends to be more mild.

If you think your child has Parapertussis:

- Tell your childcare provider or call the school.

- **Need to stay home?**

Childcare and School:

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 sneezing or coughing.

Contagious Period

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

Call your Healthcare Provider

- ◆ If anyone in your home is coughing for more than 7 days. Your doctor may want to test for the bacteria. Antibiotics may be given.

Prevention

- Cover nose and mouth when coughing or 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 handwashing.
- Clean and disinfect anything that comes in contact with secretions from the nose or mouth. Use a product that kills germs.

For more information, call Hennepin County HSPHD-Epidemiology at 612-543-5230 or call your local health department.