

# Pertussis (Whooping Cough) (*Bordetella pertussis*)

2020 Case Definition- CSTE Position Statement 19-ID-08

## Clinical Criteria

In the absence of a more likely diagnosis, a cough illness lasting  $\geq 2$  weeks, with at least one of the following signs or symptoms:

- Paroxysms of coughing; **OR**
- Inspiratory whoop; **OR**
- Post-tussive vomiting; **OR**
- Apnea (with or without cyanosis)

## Laboratory Criteria

*Confirmatory laboratory evidence:*

- Isolation of *B. pertussis* from a clinical specimen
- Positive Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) for *B. pertussis*

## Epidemiologic Linkage

- Contact with a laboratory-confirmed case of pertussis

## Case Classification

### Probable

- In the absence of a more likely diagnosis, illness meeting the clinical criteria

### OR

- Illness with cough of any duration, with
  - At least one of the following signs or symptoms:
    - Paroxysms of coughing; or
    - Inspiratory whoop; or
    - Post-tussive vomiting; or
    - Apnea (with or without cyanosis)

### AND

- Contact with a laboratory confirmed case (epidemiologic linkage)

### Confirmed

Acute cough illness of any duration, with

- Isolation of *B. pertussis* from a clinical specimen **OR**
- PCR positive for *B. pertussis*