**Whooping cough or pertussis**

Is highly infectious acute respiratory illness caused by Bordetella Pertusis.Infected adolescents and adults serve as a reservoir for children or infants to whome serious infection may occur.

Clinical features:

The incubation day is 7-10 days .The clinical features include paroxysmal cough which is a sense of severe vigorous cough that occur during a single expiration.Vigorous inspiration causes the distinctive whooping sound.

Complications:

1-pneumonia

2-otitis media

3-hernia

4-rib fractures

5-lumber strain

Prevention and treatment

80-90% of patients clear the infection without antibiotic treatment with 3-4 weeks antibiotic like erythromucin or azithromycin.

Vaccination provides protection as it is usually given in infancy but its efficacy decreases in adult life.