

26 June 2025

Kia ora colleagues

Urgent Pertussis Information for ED and Primary Care Services in Lakes/BOP

A pertussis epidemic was declared in November 2024, this is **ongoing**; please see attached public health alert.

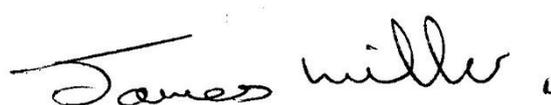
Lakes and Bay of Plenty currently have a high incidence of pertussis. We are also seeing a concerning number of cases requiring hospitalisation, including several children requiring intensive care admissions. We also are aware that there is unreported illness in the community.

Please maintain a high index of suspicion for any patient (particularly infants) who present with a relevant clinical history and manage them and any high priority contacts as per the [communicable diseases guidelines](#) and/or [starship guidelines for pertussis](#)

Please notify suspected and confirmed cases of pertussis to your local Public Health Service with up-to-date patient contact details included.

If possible this should be done via a BPAC referral online, but if not please complete the online form found [here](#) and email to CD.Admin@bopdhb.govt.nz

Yours sincerely



Dr Jim Miller

Medical Officer of Health | Bay of Plenty and Lakes
Te Manawa Taki Region | National Public Health Service