Pertussis (Whooping Cough) (*Bordetella pertussis*) Case Definition:

**Clinical Criteria**

In the absence of a more likely diagnosis, a cough illness lasting ≥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*

Pertussis Outbreak Case Definition:

An outbreak of pertussis in Montana is defined as three or more pertussis cases that are epidemiologically linked (related in time and space).