



CITY OF SNOQUALMIE

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City of Snoqualmie News Release

For immediate release: July 24, 2012

Vaccinations Encouraged in Response to Whooping Cough Epidemic

Snoqualmie, WA – More than 3,000 cases of whooping cough (pertussis) have been diagnosed in Washington so far in 2012, according to data compiled by the [Washington State Department of Health](#), compared to 219 cases at this time last year.

Vaccinations (Tdap shots) are the best way to prevent the spread of the disease. It is recommended especially to those who have any exposure to infants and young children. Protection provided by the whooping cough vaccine wears off over time; therefore, teens and adults may need a booster.

Mary Selecky, Secretary of the Washington State Department of Health, declared a whooping cough epidemic in April of 2012, which has helped make the vaccine available for people who do not have health insurance. The [King County Public Health Department](#) has provided the vaccination that the Snoqualmie Valley Hospital has been able to administer to local citizens.

Where to get a whooping cough vaccination:

- **Those with no health insurance or insurance that does not cover the whooping cough vaccination** (and are age 19 and older) may get a free whooping cough vaccination at the [Snoqualmie Valley Hospital](#) or any of its four [clinics](#). There are also vaccinations being administered by Snoqualmie Valley Hospital at local agencies such as the Mt. Si Food Bank, senior living facilities, senior centers, and others. Please call ahead for an appointment at 425-831-2333.
- **Those with health insurance that covers the whooping cough vaccination** may go to the Snoqualmie Valley Hospital or one of its four clinics. Please call ahead for an appointment at 425-831-2333.

To ensure the City of Snoqualmie is able to provide the most effective public safety services, Police Chief Steve McCulley and Fire Chief Bob Rowe have strongly encouraged all of their police and fire personnel to get the vaccination.

For more information, visit the [Washington State Department of Health](#) pertussis (whooping cough) website.

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