

Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine (DTPa)

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Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine (DTPa)

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type: Glossary Item

METEOR identifier: 523497

Registration status: [National Health Performance Authority \(retired\)](#), Retired 01/07/2016

Definition: A vaccine that protects against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (whooping cough). The DTP used in Australia and many other industrialised countries is DTPa, which contains an acellular pertussis component made of refined pertussis extracts. The acronym DTPa, using capital letters, signifies child formulations of diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis-containing vaccines, and denotes the substantially larger amounts of diphtheria toxoid and pertussis.

Source and reference attributes

Reference documents: [The Australian Immunisation Handbook, 10th ed, 2013](#)