

Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine (DTPa)

Identifying and definitional attributes

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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](#)