



Colleen Sedney

Ph.D. Student, Infectious Diseases
Second Year ARCS Scholar
Hinkle Award

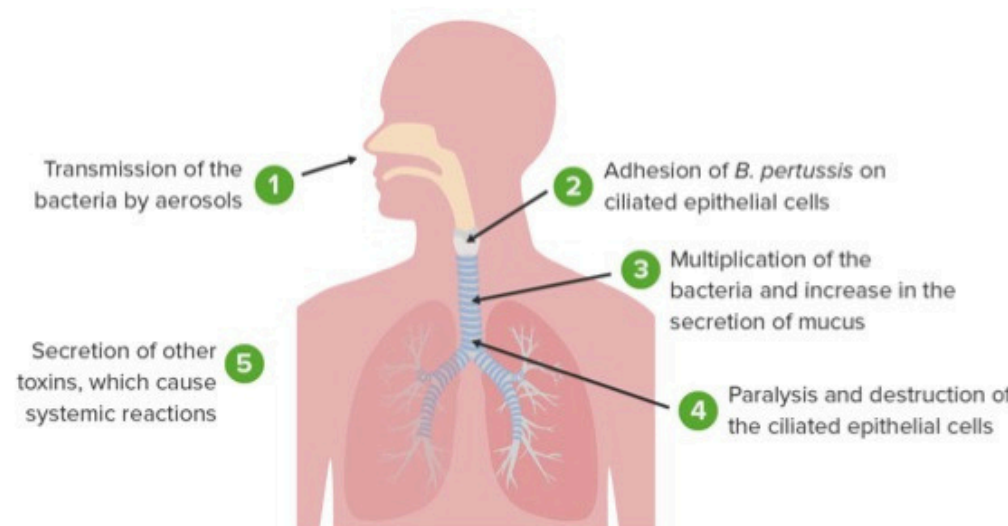


UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

Novel murine model reveals an early role for pertussis toxin in disrupting neonatal immunity to *Bordetella pertussis*

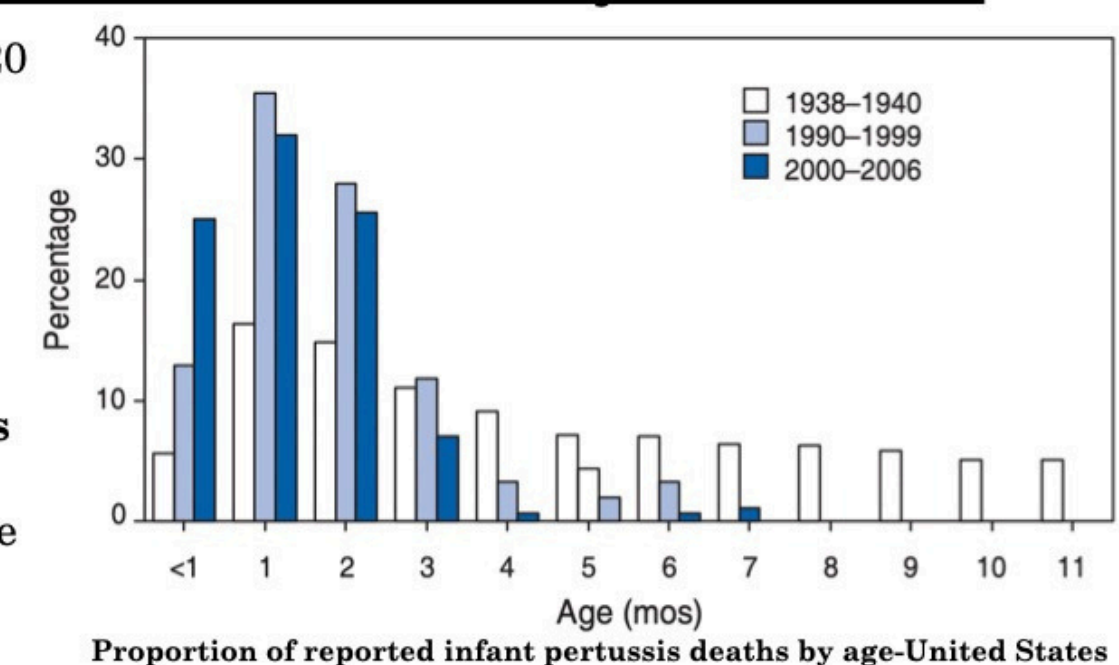
Introduction: *Bordetella pertussis* causes “whooping cough”

- Gram-negative
- Causes respiratory disease
- Attach to cilia of respiratory epithelial cells
- Bacterial factors delay immune cell action, leading to inflammation and disease



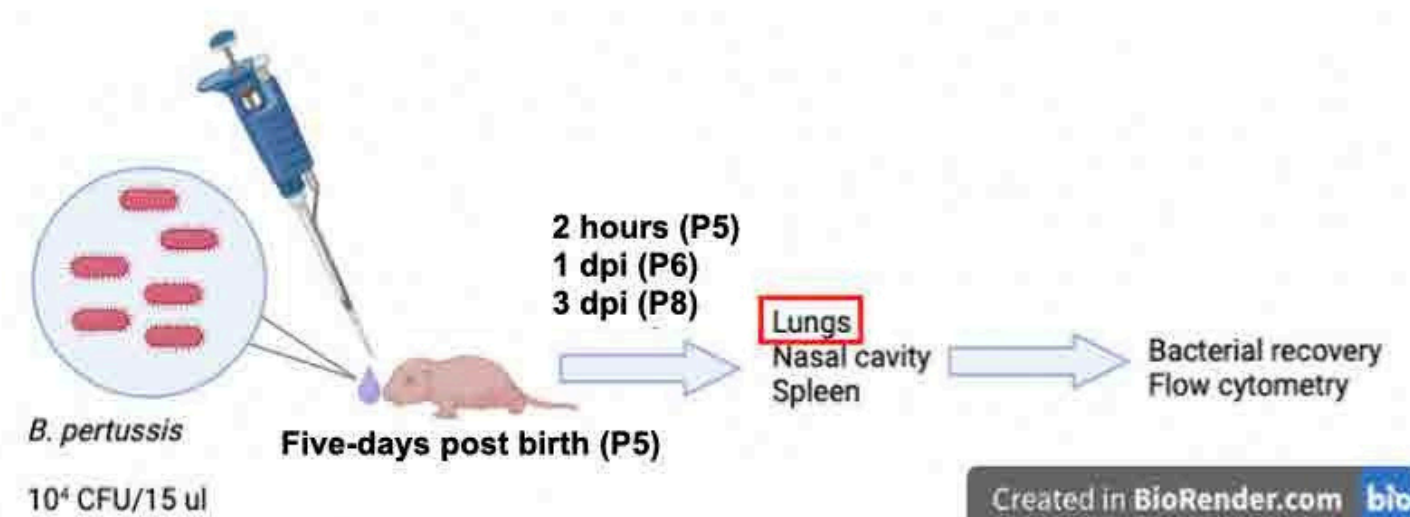
Introduction: High incidence and mortality in newborns

- Incidence for persons >20 years is 1.4 per 100,000
- Incidence for infants <6 months is 72.3 per 100,000
- Infants under 3 months suffer the most complications and severe disease related to *B. pertussis*

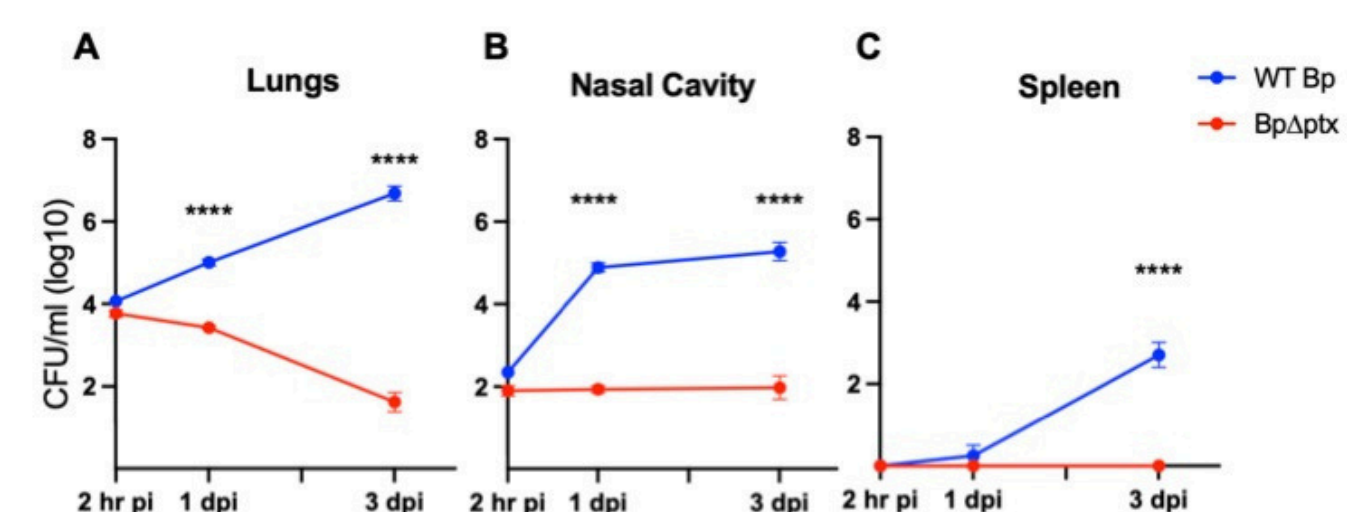


Source: Prevention of pertussis, tetanus, and diphtheria among pregnant and postpartum women and their infants. Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)

Development of a novel neonatal *B. pertussis* infection model



Pertussis toxin disrupts neonatal control and immune responses in the lung

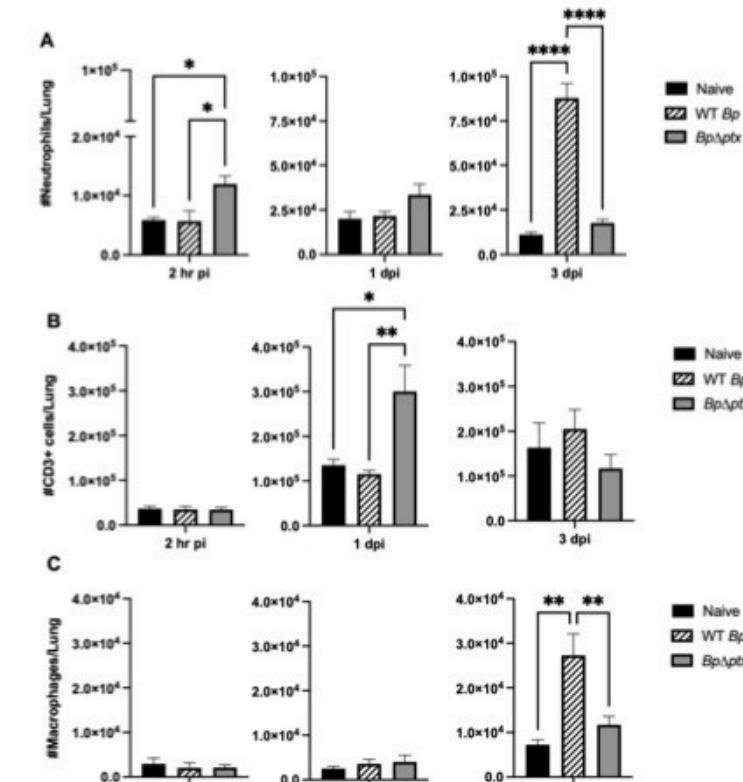


Pertussis toxin disrupts neonatal control of *B. pertussis* in the lungs

Pertussis toxin disrupts neonatal control and immune responses in the lung

- Pups inoculated with Bp Δ ptx had significantly higher neutrophil counts at 2 hours and T cells at 1 dpi
- Pups inoculated with WT Bp had significantly higher neutrophils and macrophages at 3 dpi

Pertussis toxin disrupts early accumulation of neutrophils and T cells



Thank you to all the members of the Harvill lab and our collaborators in the Manley and Klonowski labs. This work was supported by grants AI156293 and AI159347 of the National Institutes of Health to Eric Harvill and AI139449 of the National Institutes of Health to Nancy Manley. The funders had no role in study design, data collection, and interpretation, or the decision to submit the work for publication.

Scholar Awards Celebration
November 15, 2023



Igniting
Innovation
in Georgia