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O

(سُئِرِيهِمْ آيَاتِنَا فِي الْآفَاقِ وَفِي أَنْفُسِهِمْ حَتَّىٰ يَتَبَيَّنَ  
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شَهِيدٌ)

صدق الله العظيم

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# List of contents

<b>Titles</b>	<b>Page No.</b>
<b>Chapter One: Introduction</b>	1
<b>Aims of the study</b>	4
<b>Chapter two: Literature review</b>	5
<b>2-1 Historical background</b>	5
<b>2-2 The causative agent (<i>Bordetella pertussis</i>)</b>	7
<b>2-2-1 Definition and Classification</b>	7
<b>2-2-2 Culture</b>	8
<b>2-2-3 Biochemical activity</b>	9
<b>2-2-4 Susceptibility to antimicrobial agents</b>	9
<b>2-2-5 Antigenic characters</b>	10
<b>2-2-6 Virulence factors</b>	10
2-2-6-1 Pertussis toxin (PT)	10
2-2-6-2 Filamentous hemagglutinin (FHA)	12
2-2-6-3 Lipopolysaccharide (LPS) (Heat stable toxin HST)	14
2-2-6-4 Fimbrial agglutinogens (FIMs)	14
2-2-6-5 Pertactin (69 KD protein) or (OMP)	15
2-2-6-6 Adenylate Cyclase	15
2-2-6-7 Tracheal Cytotoxin	16
2-2-6-8 Heat-labile toxin	17
2-2-6-9 BrKA	17
<b>2-2-7 Pathogenesis</b>	17
<b>2-3 The immune response to <i>B. pertussis</i></b>	21
<b>2-3-1 Humeral immune response</b>	21
2-3-1-1 IgG response	21
2-3-1-2 IgA response	24
2-3-1-3 Role of complement	25
<b>2-4 Clinical manifestation</b>	27
<b>2-4-1 The incubation period</b>	27
<b>2-4-2 The clinical course of the illness</b>	27
2-4-2-1 Catarrhal stage	27
2-4-2-2 Paroxysmal stage	28
2-4-2-3 Convalescent stage	28
<b>2-4-3 Complications</b>	29

<b>2-5 Laboratory diagnosis</b>	29
2-5-1 Isolation of <i>B. pertussis</i> by culture	30
2-5-2 Polymerase chain reaction (PCR)	30
2-5-3 Direct fluorescent antibody (DFA)	31
2-5-4 Lymphocyte count	31
2-5-5 Serological testing	31
2-5-5-1 Slide agglutination test (SAT)	32
2-5-5-2 Counterimmunoelectrophoresis test (CIEPT)	33
2-5-5-3 Complement fixation test (CFT)	33
2-5-5-4 Indirect hemagglutination test (IHAT)	33
2-5-5-5 Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent assay (ELISA)	33
<b>2-6 Pertussis epidemiology</b>	35
2-6-1 Mode of transmission	35
2-6-3 Age and sex distribution	35
2-6-4 Pertussis incidence in vaccinated and unvaccinated patients	36
2-6-5 Seasonal influence on pertussis incidence	37
2-6-8 Nosocomial transmission	37
<b>2-7 Pertussis immunization</b>	38
2-7-1 Passive immunization	38
2-7-1-1 Transplacental	38
2-7-1-2 Therapeutic	38
2-7-2 Active immunization: Pertussis vaccine	40
<b>2-8 Pertussis in Iraq</b>	41
<b>Chapter Three: Materials and Methods</b>	44
<b>3-1 Study design and study groups</b>	44
3-1-1 Patients	44
3-1-2 Normal population	45
3-1-3 Healthcare workers	45
<b>3-2 Materials</b>	46
3-2-1 Equipments and tools	46
3-2-2 <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgG and IgA ELISA kits	47
3-2-2-1 Contents of the test kits	47
<b>3-3 Methods</b>	50
3-3-1 Specimens collection and storage	50
3-3-2 Sample storage	50
3-3-3 ELISA assay procedure	50
3-3-3-1 Preparation of samples and reagents	50
3-3-3-2 Assay procedure	51

<b>3-3-4 Quantitative evaluation</b>	52
3-3-4-1 The standard curve and the linear equation of <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgG	52
3-3-4-2 The standard curve and the linear equation of <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgA	54
<b>3-3-5 Interpretation of the results</b>	56
<b>3-3-8 Statistical analysis</b>	57
<b>3-3-9 Sensitivity &amp; Specificity</b>	58
<b>Chapter Four: Results</b>	59
<b>4-1 Age distribution of the pertussis patients</b>	59
<b>4-2 Sex distribution of the patients</b>	60
<b>4-3 Residential distribution of the patients</b>	61
<b>4-4 Vaccination status of the patients</b>	62
<b>4-5 The complication of pertussis</b>	63
<b>4-6 The seasonal distribution of pertussis cases</b>	65
<b>4-7 Anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgG response in vaccinated patients and normal population:</b>	67
<b>4-8 Anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgG response in vaccinated patients and normal population:</b>	69
<b>4-9 Anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgA response in unvaccinated patients and normal population:</b>	71
<b>4-10 Anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgA response in vaccinated patients and normal population:</b>	73
<b>4-11 The anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgG and IgA response in relation to pertussis duration</b>	75
<b>4-12 The diagnostic sensitivity and Specificity of anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgG and IgA measured by ELISA technique in laboratory diagnosis of pertussis:</b>	77
<b>4-13 Anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgG response to DTP vaccination in normal population</b>	78
<b>4-14 Anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgA response to DTP vaccination in normal population</b>	79
<b>4-15 Anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgG responses to DTP vaccination in vaccinated an unvaccinated population according to age groups</b>	80
<b>4-16 Anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgA responses to DTP vaccination in vaccinated an unvaccinated population according to age groups</b>	82
<b>4-17 Anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgG, IgA levels in medical staff.</b>	83
<b>Chapter Five: Discussion</b>	84

<b>5-1 Age distribution of the pertussis patients</b>	84
<b>5-2 Sex distribution of the pertussis patients</b>	86
<b>5-3 Residential distribution</b>	87
<b>5-4 Vaccination status of patients</b>	88
<b>5-5 The seasonal distribution of pertussis patients</b>	90
<b>5-6 Complications of pertussis patients</b>	91
<b>5-7 Anti Bordetella pertussis IgG response in pertussis patients</b>	94
<b>5-8 Anti Bordetella pertussis IgA response in pertussis patients</b>	96
<b>5-9 Anti Bordetella pertussis IgG and IgA response in relation to disease duration</b>	98
<b>5-10 The sensitivity and specificity of anti Bordetella pertussis IgG and IgA ELISA assay in diagnosis of pertussis</b>	100
<b>5-11 The anti Bordetella pertussis IgG, IgA to DTP vaccination</b>	102
<b>5- 12 The anti Bordetella pertussis IgG &amp; IgA in health-care workers</b>	105
<b>Conclusions and Recommendations</b>	107
<b>Conclusions</b>	107
<b>Recommendations</b>	108
<b>Appendixes</b>	109
<b>Appendix A</b>	109
<b>Appendix B</b>	114
<b>References</b>	115

# List of Tables

Table No.	Titles	Page No.
1	The biochemical activity of medically important <i>Bordetella</i> Spp	9
2	The epidemiological features of pertussis in Iraq	41
3	DPT vaccine coverage in Iraq	43
4	The age groups and immunization statue of the normal subjects.	45
5	Equipments and tools used in this study	46
6	Statistical data of the liner equation of IgG	53
7	Statistical data of the liner equation of IgA	55
8	Age distribution and vaccination status of the patients	60
9	The residential distribution of the vaccinated and unvaccinated patients with DTP vaccine	61
11	The Anti <i>B. pertussis</i> antibody mean level in study groups	67
12	The <i>P</i> value and sensitivity & specificity of anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgG in unvaccinated patients and normal children	68
13	<i>P</i> value and sensitivity & specificity of anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgG in the vaccinated patients and normal children:	70
14	<i>P</i> value and sensitivity & specificity of anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgA in unvaccinated patients and normal children.	72
15	<i>P</i> value and sensitivity & specificity of anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgA in vaccinated patients and normal children	74
16	The diagnostic sensitivity of anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgG according to the timing of sample collection	76
17	The diagnostic sensitivity of anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgA according to the timing of sample collection	76
18	The diagnostic sensitivity of anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgG or IgA according to the timing of sample collection.	76
19	show the diagnostic sensitivity and Specificity of the anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgG and IgA	78
20	The No. of positive results noticed in medical staff	84
21	Comparison between present study and other researcher study.	101

# List of Figures

Figure No.	Title	Page No.
1	Structure of pertussis Toxin.	11
2	Hypothetical steps involved in the binding, internalization, and activation of pertussis toxin.	11
3	Synergy between pertussis toxin and the filamentous hemagglutinin in binding to ciliated respiratory epithelial cells.	13
4	The sequence of events in pertussis.	20
5	The sensitivity of culture and serology after the onset of pertussis symptoms.	32
6	Trends Whooping cough in Iraq (South/Centre) 1989 to 1996.	42
7	The standard curve of anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgA.	52
8	The standard curve of anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgA.	54
9	Age distribution of the pertussis patients.	59
10	Sex distribution of the pertussis patients.	60
11	The residential distribution of the pertussis patients.	61
12	Vaccination status of the pertussis patients.	62
13	Age distribution of the pneumonic pertussis patients.	63
14	Vaccination status of complicated pertussis cases.	64
15	Distribution of pertussis cases in the study period.	66
16	Anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgG mean levels in unvaccinated patients and normal children.	68
17	Anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgG mean levels in vaccinated patients and normal children.	70
18	Anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgA mean levels in unvaccinated patients and normal children	72
19	Anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgA mean levels in vaccinated patients and normal children.	74
20	Anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgG and IgA sensitivities according to timing of sample collection.	77
21	Anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgG mean levels according to DTP vaccine doses.	79
22	Anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgA mean levels according to DTP vaccine doses.	80
23	Anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgG response to DTP vaccine according to age groups in vaccinated and unvaccinated population	81
24	Anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgA response to DTP vaccine according to age groups in vaccinated and unvaccinated population.	83



# List of Abbreviations

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Description</i>
<b>Abs</b>	Antibodies
<b>ACT</b>	Adenylate cyclase
<b>ADP</b>	Adenosin diphosphate
<b>AGGs</b>	Agglutinogens
<b><i>B. pertussis</i></b>	<i>Bordetella pertussis</i>
<b>BrkA</b>	<i>Bordetella</i> resistance to killing genetic locus, frame A
<b>CD</b>	Cluster of differentiation
<b>CDC</b>	Center for disease control and prevention
<b>CFA</b>	Complement fixation test
<b>CIEPT</b>	Counterimmunoelectrophoresis test
<b>DFA</b>	Direct fluorescent
<b>DNA</b>	Deoxyribonucleic acid
<b>DTP vaccine</b>	Diphtheria – tetanus – pertussis vaccine
<b>EDTA</b>	Ethylenediamine tetraacetic acid
<b>ELISA</b>	Enzyme linked immunosorbent assay
<b>EPI</b>	Expanded program on immunization
<b>Fc</b>	Fragment crystallizable
<b>FHA</b>	Filamentous hemagglutinin
<b>FIMs</b>	Fimbrial agglutinogens
<b>HLT</b>	Heat labile toxin
<b>IFN-<math>\gamma</math></b>	Interferon gamma
<b>IgA</b>	Immunoglobulin A
<b>IgG</b>	Immunoglobulin G
<b>IgM</b>	Immunoglobulin M
<b>IHAT</b>	Indirect hemagglutination test
<b>IL</b>	Interleukin
<b>LOS</b>	Lipooligosaccharide
<b>LPS (HST)</b>	Lipopolysaccharide (heat stable toxin)
<b>O. D.</b>	Optical density
<b>OMP(PRN)</b>	Outer membrane protein (pertactin)
<b>PBS</b>	Phosphate buffer solution
<b>PCR</b>	Polymerase chain reaction
<b>PT (LPF)</b>	Pertussis toxin (Lymphocytosis promoting factor)
<b>PT-IgA</b>	Pertussis toxin-Immunoglobulin-A

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Description</i>
<b>PT-IgG</b>	Pertussis toxin-Immunoglobulin-G
<b>SAT</b>	Slide agglutination test
<b>TCT</b>	Tracheal cytotoxin
<b>TMB</b>	Tetramethylbenzidine
<b>U/ml</b>	Unit per milliliter
<b>WBC</b>	White blood cells
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization

# Abstract

The aims of this study is to describe some of the epidemiological features of pertussis in Babylon Province in Iraq, and to evaluate the specific anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and IgA ELISA technique in the laboratory diagnosis of pertussis, and to determine the humoral immune response to DTP vaccine.

Blood samples were obtained from the following groups: 68 (36 unvaccinated and 32 vaccinated) clinically diagnosed hospitalized pertussis patients, 103 normal healthy subject of similar age groups (49 vaccinated and 54 unvaccinated) and 20 healthcare workers in Babylon Province.

The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and IgA antibodies were tested by ELIZA technique in all study groups.

The study shows that the highest incidence of pertussis was noticed in patients less than 1 year (49% of the total pertussis patients). The male to female ratio was 1.27:1. There were 71% of pertussis cases from rural area compared with 29% from urban area. 36 (53%) of the patients were unvaccinated and 26 (38%) of the patients were partially vaccinated, while only 6 (9%) are fully

vaccinated (3 doses of DTP vaccine). Complications were noticed in (88%) of the patients; they are mainly apnea (88%), seizure (26%), pneumonia (29%), and death (4%). Most cases were noticed between March and July.

The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG diagnostic sensitivity and specificity in unvaccinated subjects were 77%, 100% respectively; while in vaccinated subjects they were 67%, 91% respectively. The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA diagnostic sensitivity and specificity in unvaccinated subjects were 33%, 100% respectively, while in vaccinated subjects they were 72%, 86% respectively. The best diagnostic sensitivity and specificity was observed in samples collected after > 21 days of the onset of pertussis symptoms. The higher diagnostic sensitivity and specificity were obtained by using anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG or IgA positive levels.

The study shows that the anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG mean level in DPT vaccinated normal subjects was 56.41 U/ml (range 19.77-143.89 U/ml), while it was 29.33 U/ml (range 1.01-56.9 U/ml) in unvaccinated subjects. The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA mean level in vaccinated normal subjects was 9.05 U/ml (range 3.6-29.74 U/ml), while it was 4.79 U/ml (range 3.05- 7 U/ml) in unvaccinated subjects.

There is 10.7% (11/103) of the normal subjects which have a positive anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG or IgA levels. In

addition, 70% (14/20) of the healthcare workers in this study have a positive anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG or IgA levels.

## **Introduction**

Pertussis (Whooping cough) is an acute respiratory disease affecting over 60 million infants and is responsible for approximately half million dying each year (Holder, and Mortimer.1992 and Pizza *et al.* 1989). It remains an important public health problem in the developing world and represents a reemerging public health problem in developed countries (Holder, and Mortimer.1992). At the turn of the twentieth century in United States approximately 5 of every 1,000 infants born alive die of the disease before their fifth birthdays. Today fewer than 10 deaths are reported annually in the United States (Mortimer. 1998).

The disease was characterized by a paroxysmal cough which often starts after an incubation period of 7 to 10 days, with a range of 4 to 21 days (Hoppe *et al.* 1998.). The classical pertussis illness has three stages: the catarrhal, paroxysmal and convalescent. Complications are mainly due to the effect of the paroxysms, and include anoxia, cyanosis, atelectasis and bronchiectasis. Pneumonia is due to secondary bacterial infection such as *Hemophilus influenzae*, *Streptococcus pneumonia*, *Streptococcus pyogenes* or *Staphylococcus aureus*. The central nervous system complication includes encephalitis and seizure (Hoppe *et al.* 1998 and Zackrisson *et al.* 1990).

*Bordetella pertussis* (*B. pertussis*), the causative agent of whooping cough (Beier, *et al.* 1996) is a small gram negative coccobacilli. *B. pertussis* produces a number of virulence factors such as Pertussis toxin (PT), Filamentous hemagglutinin (FHA), pertactin, tracheal cytotoxin, demonecroting toxin and adenylate cyclase (Manklark and Hill. 1984).

The majority of pertussis cases occur in children under the age of 5; most deaths occur during the first year of life (Brooks, *et al.* 2004).

Attempts to develop effective vaccine were unsuccessful until the late 1930s. In the United States, whole killed bacterial vaccines appeared to be of sufficient efficacy to warrant licensure and generally in young infants in 1940s (Mortimer. 1998). During the 1960s the number of notified cases and of hospitalized cases of pertussis decreased substantially. However, from the beginning of the 1970s the incidence of pertussis increased despite a continued high vaccination rate (Nelson *et al.* 1996). The whole cell vaccine have been associated with mild reactions, such as redness, swelling and fever that occur in 20-70% of the vaccinees. In addition to these mild reactions severe side effects such as anaphylaxis, brain damage, and death have been associated in rare cases 3 to 9 cases per million doses, with pertussis vaccination (Peppoloni *et al.* 1995). In 1981 Japan introduced acellular pertussis vaccines, major components of this vaccines were PT and FHA. The acellular pertussis vaccines were more immunogenic with less local and systemic reactions than the whole cell pertussis vaccine (Afari *et al.* 1996).

The diagnosis of pertussis primarily depends on clinical signs and symptoms, but these symptoms do not occur until week 3 of infection, during the paroxysmal phase of illness (Pittman. 1984). Techniques routinely available in clinical laboratories include culture and direct immunofluorescent on nasopharyngeal secretions, and Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR). These techniques have either low sensitivity and/or low specificity (de Melker *et al.* 1999). Some investigators have suggested that serological methods may increase the diagnostic sensitivity. The ELISA technique which detects anti

PT and/or FHA antibodies in serum samples was considered to be the most sensitive laboratory method to diagnose pertussis (Halperin *et al.* 1989). However, the ELISA technique needs further evaluation and standardization (Kosters *et al.* 2000).

Aims of study**Aims of the study**

1. To describe the epidemiological features (age and sex distributions, vaccination status, residential and seasonal influence) of pertussis infection in Babylon Province.
2. To evaluate the role of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and/or IgA antibodies by ELISA technique in diagnosis of whooping cough, and demonstrate the influence of age, vaccination status and timing of serum collection on sensitivity and specificity of this technique.
3. To determine the levels of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and IgA as a response to DTP vaccination.
4. To determine the carrier state of *Bordetella pertussis* infection in the general population.
5. To determine the role of healthcare workers in nosocomial transmission of *Bordetella pertussis* infection.

## Literature Review

### 2-1 Historical background

The first recorded description of the whooping cough dated back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century (Holder and Mortimer. 1992; Mortimer. 1998). No definitive description of whooping cough syndrome was found earlier than that of Gillian De Daillou who described an outbreak in Paris during the year 1578 (Holder, and Mortimer.1992; Altemeier-III. 1981) in which infants and young children were primarily affected. It is curious and unclear why *B. pertussis* infection eluded earlier description. Epidemics of pertussis followed settlers to the New World (Holder, and Mortimer.1992). An explanatory hypothesis from this curiosity includes the possibility that pertussis was a disease new to human beings at that time perhaps as a consequence of mutation of some similar organism that affected lower animals (Mortimer. 1998). Another hypothesis is that physicians of the past paid less attention to the disease in the presence of many other more devastating diseases (Mortimer. 1998). Yet whooping cough has enough unique features that it should have been recognized far earlier. Its prevalence as a common communicable disease of childhood, occurrence in epidemics, and prolonged clinical course with paroxysmal cough and whoops should have made pertussis at least as recognizable as was mumps to Hippocrates or measles to the ancient Arabian physician Al-Rhazes (Altemeier-III. 1981). Sydenham first used the term pertussis in 1670, but the illness has also been known as kink, which pertained to a Scottish word for “fit” or paroxysm and chin cough derived from the German kindhoest of child’s cough. In 1897 Frohlich

was apparently the first to note the lymphocytosis which characterized pertussis, a useful diagnostic tool (Altemeier-III. 1981).

The organism was recognized in respiratory secretion and pathological specimens in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century but was not recovered on culture until 1906 (Mortimer. 1990), when Bordet and Gengou isolated the organism on potato starch infusion, glycerol and defibrinated blood (Holder, and Mortimer.1992; A combined Scottish studies. 1970) and was named after these two scientists *Heamophilus pertrussis* and finally *Bordetella pertussis* became accepted nomenclature. The complex medium designed by these two workers is, with slight modification, used today to isolate this organism and is appropriately known as Bordet-Gengou medium.

Following isolation of pertussis bacillus, many workers tried unsuccessfully to prepare effective vaccines. Sauer, a pioneer of vaccination in the United States recognized the importance of using freshly isolated strain in adequate number and produced a vaccine that conferred good protection during a period when others were having many problems (Altemeier-III. 1981). Because of poor understanding of the organism of biological anatomy as well as difficulties in propagation, attempts to develop effective vaccines were unsuccessful until the late 1930s (Mortimer. 1998).

## **2-2 The causative agent (*Bordetella pertussis*)**

### **2-2-1 Definition and Classification**

*Bordetella* spp. are minute, gram-negative, aerobic, non-acid-fast, non-sporing coccobacilli. They do not ferment carbohydrates. Their optimum temperature is 35-37°C (Bemi. 1992). The genus *Bordetella* consists of seven

species, *B. pertussis*, *B. parapertussis*, *B. bronchiseptica*, *B. avium* and the recently added *B. hinzii*, *B. holmesii* and *B. trematum* (Altemeier-III. 1981). *B. pertussis* and *B. parapertussis* are responsible for the majority of *Bordetella* infections in human. Most of the other species have been recognized to cause human infection under special circumstances (Parton. 1996). For example, *B. hinzii* has been isolated from symptomatic patients with cystic fibrosis (Vandamme *et al.* 1995; Funk *et al.* 1996). *B. holmesii* has been associated with septicemia (Tang *et al.* 1998; Weyant *et al.* 1995) and *B. trematum* has been recovered from wounds and ear infection in human (Vandamme *et al.* 1996). *B. bronchiseptica* causes respiratory diseases such as kennel cough in dogs, snuffles in rabbits, pneumonia in koalas, and atrophic rhinitis in swine, but it is also infrequently responsible for chronic respiratory infection in humans, especially immunocompromised hosts and persons who have contact with animals (Bauwens *et al.* 1992; Cosh and Tranter *et al.* 1979).

### **2-2-2 Culture**

The preferred medium is charcoal blood agar to which cephalixin has been added; the antibiotic inhibits other organism that commonly found in specimens and only minimally restricts the growth of *Bordetella* species (Ruijs. 1991). This medium is superior to Bordet-Gengou medium in that it supports a heavier growth of the organism on primary isolation, and the colonies are larger (Ruijs. 1991). Recent work suggests that this medium may be stored at 4 °C in airtight, sealed plastic bags for up to 14 weeks without significant deterioration in the efficiency of culture (Ruijs. 1991). Primary

isolation of *B. pertussis* on charcoal blood agar is slow and incubation should be continuing for at least 5 days. Plates or slopes should be incubated at 35 °C with enhanced humidity. Usually a growth will be recognizable after 72h as greish white colonies with a shiny surface and high convex shape: the typical 'bisected pearl' or 'mercury drop' appearance (Onorato and Wassilak. 1987).

### 2-2-3 Biochemical activity

Studies on the metabolic activities of the *Bordetella* have been concerned mainly with defining nutritional requirements or with biochemical tests for identification and for taxonomic and phylogenetic purposes. The biochemical testing has a limited value for differentiation between *B. pertussis*, *B. parapertussis* and *B. bronchiseptica*, which can be distinguished by some biochemical tests (Table-1) (Vandamme, *et al.*1995).

**Table (1): The biochemical activity of medically important *Bordetella* Spp (Vandamme, *et al.*1995):**

Characteristic	<i>B. pertussis</i>	<i>B. parapertussis</i>	<i>B. bronchiseptica</i>
Growth on blood agar	-	+	+
Oxidase	+	-	+
Motility	-	-	+
Urease	-	+	+

### 2-2-4 Susceptibility to antimicrobial agents

*B. pertussis* was mentioned to be susceptible to several antibiotics, such as tetracycline, erythromycin, and chloramphenicol; the efficacy of these drugs in patients during the paroxysmal phase is not convincing. Treatment

with erythromycin, which is usually considered the antibiotic of choice, will eliminate viable *B. pertussis* organisms from the respiratory tract within a few days. The treatment, however, has no influence on the course of the disease. Antipertussis hyperimmunoglobulin is still used occasionally (Balagtas *et al.* 1971). Further treatment is symptomatic. (Blackall *et al.* 1995).

### **2-2-5 Antigenic characters**

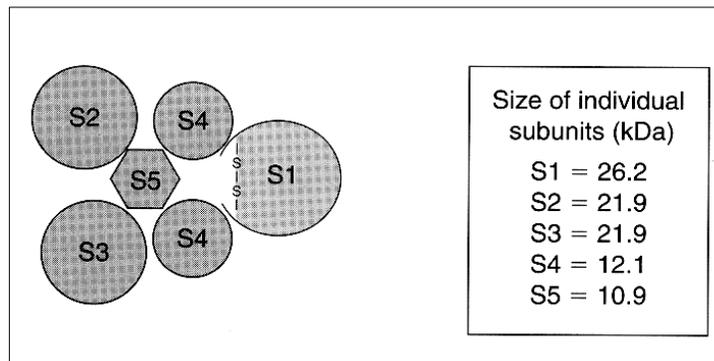
*B. pertussis* has three major antigens, designated 1,2 and 3, which can be detected by slide agglutination tests. In recent years the commonest serotype in Britain has been types 1 and 3 in well immunized communities and types 1 and 2 in poorly immunized communities (Preston,. 1985). However, it is now clear that thorough epidemiological investigation requires more sophisticated procedures such as restriction fragment analysis of DNA (Khattak, *et al.*1992).By using this technique it has become clear that multiple strains of *B. pertussis* circulate in the population at one time and that considerable variant in type of the organism exists in different geographical areas. (Preston. 1985)

### **2-2-6 Virulence factors**

*B. pertussis* produces an array of toxins, aggressins and adhesions that are presumed to be important in colonization of their respective hosts and ensuring the prolongation of their survival and propagation. (Weiss *et al.* 1984).

### 2-2-6-1 Pertussis toxin (PT)

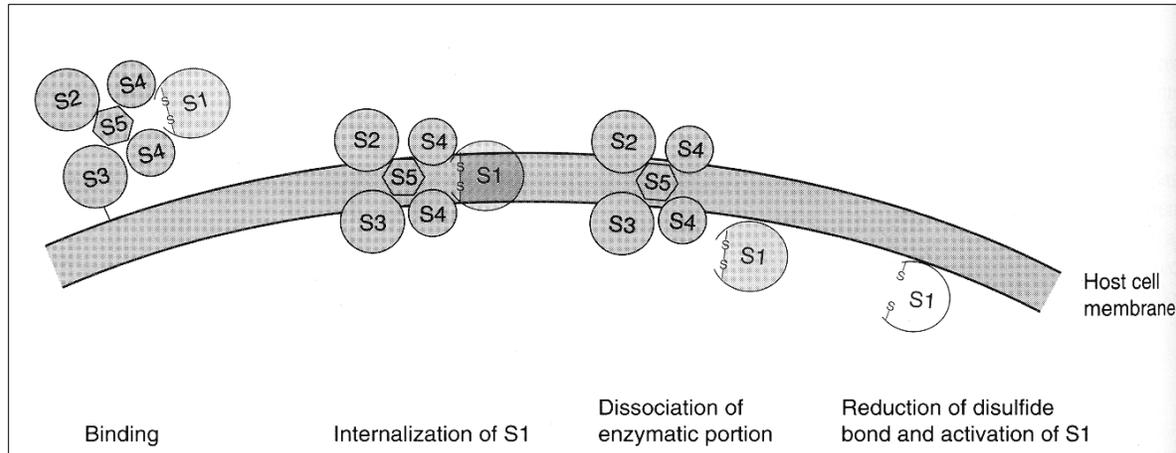
Pertussis toxin (PT) has a complex structure. It is composed of five dissimilar subunits, named S1-S5 (fig-1). PT is a member of the A-B toxins, in which the A moiety, composed of the S1 subunit, is an enzyme, and the B moiety, composed of subunits S2-S5, constitutes the target-cell receptor-binding portion. The B oligomer of PT can in turn be divided into two dimers, named D1 and D2, composed of subunits S2-S4 and subunit S3-S4, respectively (Tamura *et al.* 1982).



**Fig (1): Structure of pertussis Toxin (Locht and Antoine. 1997).**

The steps of PT biological activity include (Locht and Antoine. 1997)(fig-2):

1. Binding of toxin to the target – cell receptors via the B oligomer, with specific involvement of D1 or D2.
2. Membrane translocation of the enzymatically active S1 subunit.
3. Expression of the ADP-ribosyltransferase activity catalyzed by the internalized S1 subunit.



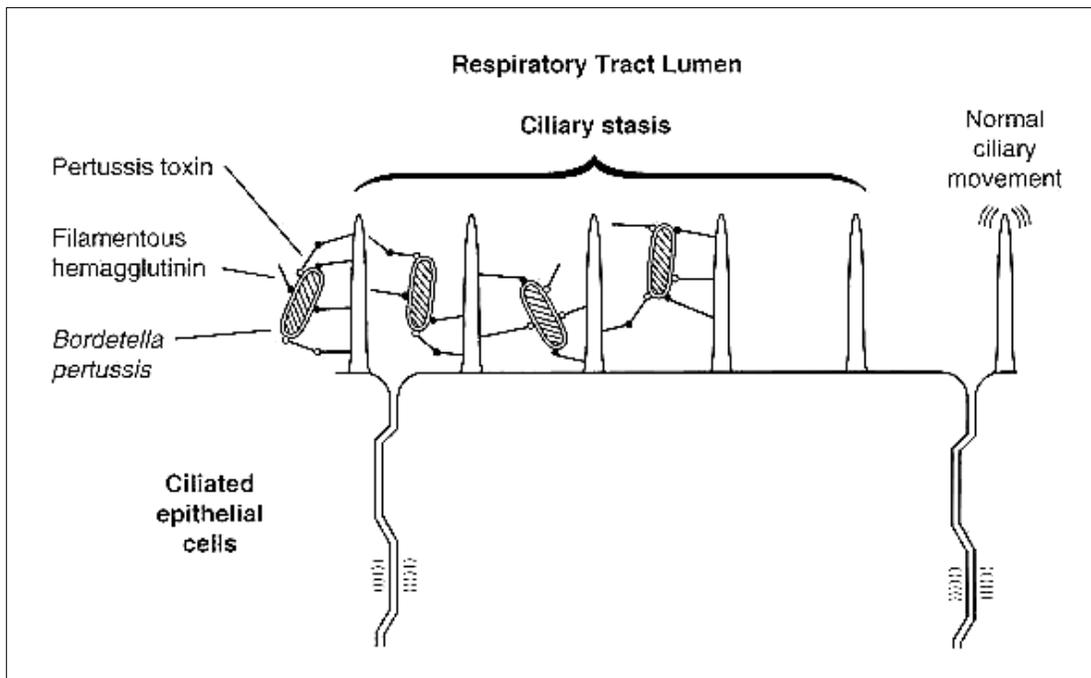
**Fig (2): Hypothetical steps involved in the binding, internalization, and activation of pertussis toxin (Locht and Antoine. 1997).**

All the three steps are required for the full expression of most – but not all – biological activities of PT. Depending on the target cell; the physiological effects of PT may vary tremendously. These effects are responsible for most of the systemic features of whooping cough (Pittman. 1984). Accordingly, the existence of PT was first predicted by the expression of its numerous biological activities detected after infection with *B. pertussis* or administration of whole cell pertussis vaccine. These activities include the biological effects that have been related to the action of PT in tissue cultures including suppression of cell proliferation, morphological changes, exocrine secretion, inhibition of histamine secretion and stimulation of lipolysis (Munoz. 1985). *In vivo*, the biological effects are recognized as Langerhan's islet activation, lymphocyte promoting activity, histamine sensitization and increase of vascular permeability (Munoz. 1985), some of which are hallmarks of systemic pertussis in patients (Pittman. 1984). PT is considered

as a potent protective antigen in vaccines against whooping cough (Ad Hoc group. 1988).

### 2-2-6-2 Filamentous Hemagglutinin (FHA)

Filamentous protein with an estimated molecular weight of 130,000 is derived from fimbriae on the surface of the organism (Manklark and Hill. 1984; Rodriguez *et al.* 1996). Its major and perhaps sole, function in the pathogenesis of whooping cough is facilitating adherence of the organism to cilia. It is likely that both PT and FHA are important in this process (Manklark and Hill. 1984; Mortimer. 1990) (Fig-3).



**Fig (3): Synergy between pertussis toxin and the filamentous hemagglutinin in binding to ciliated respiratory epithelial cells (Pittman. 1979).**

Although FHA is difficult to study in vivo in humans, in vitro studies employing human and other mammalian cells are strongly suggestive of such a role, not in the least due to the fact that Ab to FHA impedes adherence in such models, FHA appears to be nontoxic and does not appear to adhere (Mortimer. 1990). FHA is produced by three *Bordetella* species *B. pertussis*, *B. parapertussis* and *B. bronchiseptica* (Muller *et al.* 1997). Antibodies to FHA develop in human following whooping cough or immunization with whole cell pertussis vaccine and acellular vaccine (Mortimer. 1990). There is also evidence that these Abs are necessary for optimum protection. This evidence from the Swedish field trial of two acellular pertussis vaccines one containing only PT and the other containing PT and FHA, point estimate of efficacy indicated greater efficacy for latter preparation (Mortimer. 1990). In all age groups, FHA Abs was more commonly found than PT Abs (Wirsing van Konig and Schmitt. 1996). Abs to PT and FHA increase with age (Zackrisson *et al.* 1990), and there is evidence that these Abs contribute to clinical protection against pertussis (Mortimer. 1998) by preventing the adherence of these bacteria to respiratory epithelial cells. FHA is immunogenic, therefore, like PT, is strong candidate for inclusion in an acellular pertussis vaccine (Mortimer. 1991).

### **2-2-6-3 Lipopolysaccharide LPS (Heat Stable toxin HST)**

LPS or endotoxin of the cell wall is heat stable and basically similar to the endotoxins of enterobacteraceae except for differences in macromolecular structure. It consists of two different polysaccharides each terminated by a molecule of 3-deoxy-2-octulosonic acid. Two distinct lipid fragments-lipid A and Lipid X, are present, and contain glucosamine, fatty acids and esterified

phosphate in similar proportions. Lipid X which is the minor lipid has 2-methyl, 3-hydroxydecanoic and tetradecanoic acids that are absent from lipid A. Lipid X appears to be responsible for the acute toxicity of this endotoxin (Mortimer. 1998; Manklark and Hill. 1984).

#### **2-2-6-4 Fimbrial Agglutinogens (FIMs)**

More than a dozen agglutinogens are present on the cell envelope of the three species of the genus *Bordetella*; most, if all of these agglutinogens are fimbrial (Stanbridge and Preston. 1974). Only agglutinogens 1,2 and 3 are considered to be of importance in disease pathogenesis and immunity. Antibodies to these agglutinogens have been useful in seroepidemiological studies (Preston and Stanbridge. 1972). The FIMs appear to participate in the attachment of *B. pertussis* to respiratory cilia, although their role probably is less than that of FHA or PT. The FIMs are also immunogenic (Public Health Laboratory Service. 1973). Serum Abs to the FIMs is found almost universally after natural disease or after immunization with vaccines containing these proteins (Preston. 1976).

#### **2-2-6-5 Pertactin PRN or (69 kD protein) or (OMP)**

The pertactin is an outer membrane protein (OMP), originally called 69 kD protein because of its molecular weight of 69,000 Dalton (Muller *et al.* 1997). Pertactin, which is a membrane-associated Ag of *B. pertussis* and which is present in many acellular vaccines against whooping cough, has been reported to be similar to the homologous protein in *B. bronchiseptica* (Pagliaccia *et al.* 1997). Pertactin has been identified as being associated either with adenylate cyclase or one of the agglutinogens. The activity of the

pertactin in animal preparations suggests that it play a role in clinical immunity and antigenicity in human (Mortimer. 1990). Abs to PRN appear following natural disease. Pathogenesis in human as well as in the development of immunity is unknown at present (Trollfors *et al.* 1992; Mortimer. 1991). Abs to pertactin were determined in subset of serum samples by ELISA technique (Kimura *et al.* 1991).

### **2-2-6-6 Adenylate Cyclase (ACT)**

Adenylate Cyclase is an enzyme that is released into culture medium and it is present in all virulent strain of *B. pertussis*, and is non-cytoplasmic apparently being located on the cell membrane. In pertussis, ACT compromises phagocytic cell function (including chemotaxis, phagocytosis, and bacterial killing (Hewlett & Grondon. 1988) by augmenting production within the phagocyte of cyclic adenosine monophosphate from adenosine triphosphate, resulting in an excessive accumulation of cyclic adenosine monophosphate and paralysis of the various phagocytic functions. ACT may contribute to the excessive production of bronchial secretion during pertussis. In the mouse model of aerosol infection, PT and ACT appear to be the two most important virulence factors.(Weiss, *et al.* 1990) ACT is immunogenic (Arciniega, *et al.* 1991); in the mouse models of intracerebral aerosol challenge, prior active immunization with Adenylate Cyclase was shown to be similar in protective efficacy to whole- cell vaccine (Guiso, *et al.* 1990). In addition, it has been shown that ACT antibodies interfere with the multiplication of organisms in these models (Guiso, *et al.* 1990)

### **2-2-6-7 Tracheal Cytotoxin (TCT)**

Tracheal cytotoxin appears to be a fragment released from the peptidoglycan of the *B. pertussis* cell wall. It can be recovered from culture supernatant; and it is a very small molecule, and is nonimmunogenic (Cookson, *et al.* 1989). *In vitro* models suggest that it has a single major function: the paralysis and destruction of respiratory ciliated cells. Tracheal cytotoxin appears to be the only component of *B. pertussis* to exhibit this function. (Cookson, *et al.* 1989)

### **2-2-6-8 Heat-labile toxin (HLT)**

Heat labile toxin, so called because it is inactive at 56°C, is also known as the dermonecrotic or mouse-lethal toxin because of its effect in experimental animals. It is produced by all virulent *Bordetella* species (Weiss, *et al.* 1990). Located intracellularly, it can be recovered by disruption of *B. pertussis* cells. The mechanism of production of cutaneous lesions after injection of the toxin in animals appears to be vasoconstriction. The role, if any, of heat-labile toxin in the pathogenesis of pertussis is unknown. No consistent effect on cells has been recognized *in vitro*. It is a weak immunogen, antibodies to it are non-protective in animal challenge tests, and its absence does not diminish the lethality of experimental pertussis infection in mice. (Weiss, *et al.* 1990)

### **2-2-6-9 Bordetella resistance to killing genetic locus, frame A (BrkA)**

BrkA is another outer membrane protein of *B. pertussis* similar in structure to PRN mediates adherence to respiratory cells and protects the bacterium against complement. (Fernandez & Weiss. 1994)

## **2-2-7 Pathogenesis**

*B. pertussis* is strict human pathogens. It has not been isolated from animals or as member of normal flora of healthy persons (Nicosia *et al.* 1987). Knowledge of the action of the various components of *B. pertussis* permits the development of the hypothesis about the series of pathogenic events that occur in the course of whooping cough (fig-4). Because the likelihood of infection varies directly with the intimacy and duration of contact, it is probable that large numbers of organisms are required to infect the respiratory tract (Mortimer. 1998). Following inhalation of infected droplets, the organism colonizes the respiratory tract (Manklark and Hill. 1984). PT and FHA facilitate attachment of the organism to the respiratory cilia. After attachment; PT and ACT presumably play major roles in this process; it is necessary for the organism to evade host defenses. It is logical that tracheal toxin and HLT also participate. Cell damage is a consequence of the action of PT and adenylate cyclase. It is probable that tracheal and HLT also contribute (Mortimer. 1998). The role of pertactin is uncertain; it may relate to cell adherence. There is no evidence that agglutinogens play a role in pathogenesis. Similarly, there is no evidence that the rather weak endotoxin of *B. pertussis* contributes to disease manifestation (Mortimer. 1998). Tissue invasion does not occur (Mortimer. 1998), because the non ciliated cells are not involved and maintain the integrity of the epithelial lining is maintained (Nicosia *et al.* 1987) and because invasion of other tissue by *B. pertussis* is related to the lack of receptors for the organism on the other cell types (Manklark and Hill. 1984). It's presumed that the incubation period and initial mild symptoms of rhinitis, cough, sneezing and sometimes

conjunctivitis are caused by local multiplication of the organism in the respiratory tract (Manklark and Hill. 1984). In the second stage the bacterium grows in the dense masses in the trachea and large bronchi cause the production of thick mucus that impedes cilia (Case *et al.* 1986). The cough appears to be due to interference with normal mechanism of bronchial toilet, mucoid secretions accumulate which are responsible for ineffective, repetitive, paroxysmal coughing and ultimately, for varying degree of bronchial obstruction, atelectasis and bronchopneumonia (Mortimer. 1998). The thick ropy secretions that accumulate are very hard to expel, resulting in episodes of repetitious, paroxysmal coughing often followed by vomiting. The mechanism of vomiting is probably the accumulation of this viscid material in the pharynx. The characteristic whoop follows a protracted spasm that has nearly emptied the brochopulmonary tree of air and represents an attempt to inspire though vocal cords may be particully narrowed of secretions and consequent spasm. An obvious contribution of PT is the characteristic lymphocytosis of pertussis (Mortimer. 1998). The persistence of cough and lymphocytosis is a result of the fixation of toxin to cells. Such adherence is essential for the production of disease, as specific Abs can prevent damage to ciliated cells in vitro, or prevent disease in an animal model (Manklark and Hill.1984).

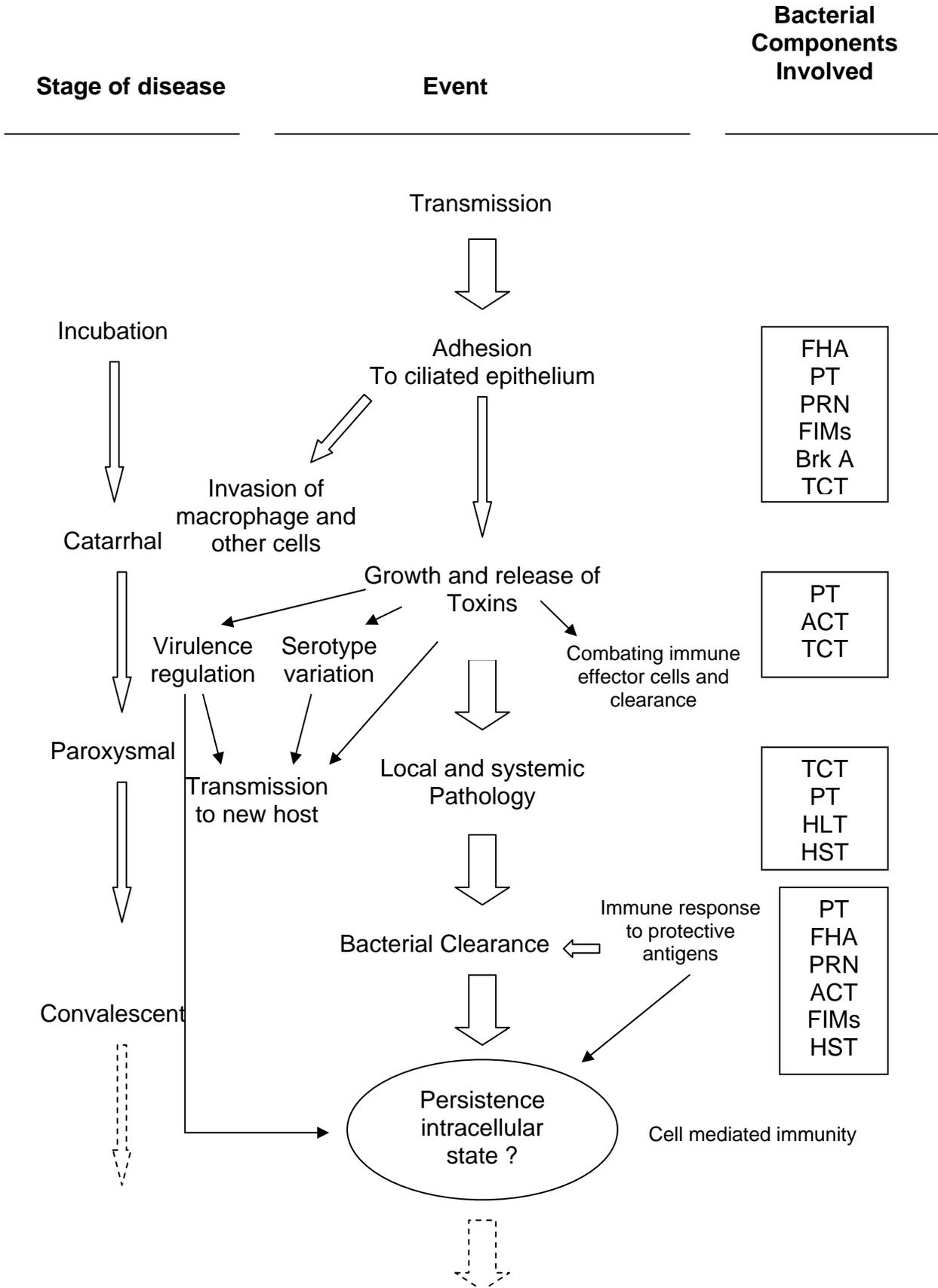


Fig (4): The sequence of events in pertussis ((Monack, et al., 1989).

## **2-3 The immune response to *B. pertussis***

### **2-3-1 Humeral immune response:**

#### **2-3-1-1 IgG response:**

There is compelling evidence nowadays that anti pertussis toxin IgG (PT IgG) antibodies alone provide passive protection against pertussis. Although protective levels of PT IgG antibodies have not been determined, vaccine trials and specifically those using single component acellular PT vaccines have shown that antibodies against PT alone can protect against pertussis. The addition of other antigens such as filamentous hemagglutinin (FHA), agglutinins, and 69-kDa protein only add minimal protection to that achieved by PT alone. It is known that patients convalescing from pertussis mount a high antibody response to PT, which approximates the onset of gradual recovery from the disease. (Ad Hoc Group for the Study of Pertussis Vaccines. 1988)

After vaccination with DTP vaccine, IgG and IgM directed against both FHA and PT were detected. Generally, antibody titers increased with subsequent injections and the age of the children. Maternal antibodies against FHA and PT were detected in cord blood, consistent with reports that there is placental transfer of antibodies to *B. pertussis*. All cord blood antibodies detected were of the IgG class. This was expected and was used as an internal control since IgM and IgA antibodies do not cross the placenta (Olin, and Storsaeter. 1989).

The IgG activity directed against the specific adherence of *B. pertussis* to human ciliated cells clearly exists. It appears that this activity involves specific antibody. Activity appears after infection and, to a lesser extent, after

immunization. In both cases, activity can be abolished by absorption of immunoglobulin classes from serum. Both the IgG and IgA fractions isolated from convalescent serum have antiadherence activity. This evidence suggests that for *B. pertussis*, antibody that prevents bacterial adherence may one of the factors that contribute to lower respiratory tract immunocompetence. (Olson, 1975).

In a study by Mills *et al.*, it was demonstrated that cell-mediated immunity and PT-IgG antibody response play complementary roles in conferring immunity in the aerosol challenge model. A comparison between three whole-cell and five acellular pertussis vaccines have demonstrated a high correlation between clinical vaccine efficacy in children and *B. pertussis* clearance from the lungs of immunized mice with the aerosol challenge model (Mills *et al.* 1998). In another study there is evidence for the important role of anti-PT IgG antibodies in the immune response but do not exclude the complementary role of cell-mediated immunity. (Bruss. and George. 1999). There is evidence that PT antibodies not only play a major role in passive protection but also can reverse symptoms of established disease for at least 7 days in mice in the aerosol challenge model. (Bruss. and George. 1999)

### **2-3-1-2 IgA response**

*B. pertussis* is noninvasive and is found exclusively on mucosa of the respiratory tract. Since IgA represents the predominant antibody isotype at mucosal surfaces, a role for IgA in anti-*B. pertussis* mechanisms is possible. (Nagel, and Poot Scholtens. 1983). IgA is generally believed to function by neutralizing and agglutinating pathogens or by preventing their attachment to mucosal surfaces (Childers, *et al.* 1989). The role of IgA, however, may be

much broader because of the effectors functions induced by binding to IgA receptors. The prototypic IgA receptor (FcaRI [CD89]) is found exclusively on cells of the myeloid lineage: monocytes, macrophages, neutrophils, and eosinophils (Kerr, Mazengera, and Stewart. 1990). Increasing evidence shows that FcaRI exhibits potent proinflammatory capacities. FcaRI binding with IgA molecule that attached to bacteria readily induces phagocytosis, degranulation, respiratory burst, antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity, and the release of proinflammatory cytokines (Van Spriel, and van de Winkel. 1999). IgA-mediated anti-*B. pertussis* activity was also observed in a murine pertussis infection model. High IgA titers in sera of human pertussis patients younger than 1 year of age were found to correlate with reduced duration of positive pertussis culture and PCR in throat samples. These findings pointed to bactericidal effects of anti-*B. pertussis* IgA in humans.( Van der Zee. *et al.* 1996).

A pertussis vaccines trial in The Netherlands showed that, boosting of 4-year-old children with the Dutch whole-cell pertussis vaccine induced anti-*B. pertussis*-specific serum IgA, in contrast to boosting with acellular vaccines (Berbers, *et al.* 1999). IgA capable of inducing anti- *B. pertussis* activity may be important in the evaluation of vaccines. For years IgA has been considered to play a passive, “noninflammatory” role in immunity; by blocking microbial interaction with host tissue, it may prevent cell damage and inflammation. However, IgA proved to be very effective in inducing cellular immune functions via FcaRI expressed on myeloid cells. A number of studies have already reported IgA-mediated phagocytosis of different microorganisms and tumor cells (Deo, *et al.* 1998).

### **2-3-1-3 Role of complement**

Complement is present in serum, but it is also exuded from the blood to mucosal surface (Persson *et al.* 1991). Mucosal pathogens have mechanism to resist complement (Fearon and Locksley. 1996). *B. pertussis* is a mucosal pathogen that produces potent toxins that contribute to the disease. In general the complement cascade can be activated by either of two pathways: carbohydrate on bacterial surfaces (LPS) which can activate the alternate pathway (Moffitt and Frank. 1994), while the deposition of Abs on bacterial surface can activate the classical or primarily antibody-dependent pathway of complement. The alternative pathway does not appear to mediate activity against *B. pertussis* (Fernandez and Weiss. 1994). Abs to *B. pertussis* can activate the classical pathway, but the BrkA protein confers resistance to killing by complement (Fernandez and Weiss. 1994).

### **2-3-2 Cell mediated immunity**

The mice genetically deficient in mature B cells given aerosol *B. pertussis* infection develop a persistent infection that never be resolved but does not disseminate (Mahon, *et al.* 1997). In addition, recent studies have demonstrated that pertussis-specific human (Ryan, *et al.* 1997) and murine (Mills, *et al.* 1993) T cells, particularly CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells, secrete IL-2 and IFN- $\gamma$  in response to specific stimulation. In a mouse model of respiratory infection, transfer of these Th1 cells resulted in bacterial clearance in the apparent absence of antibodies (Mills, *et al.* 1993). Furthermore, after aerosol infection, mice lacking IFN- $\gamma$  did not control bacterial growth well (Barbic, *et al.* 1997), and mice lacking IFN- $\gamma$  receptors had disease with aberrant organ

pathology, atypical dissemination of bacteria outside of lungs, and occasional deaths (Mahon, *et al.* 1997). Consistent with controversial reports suggesting that *B. pertussis* survives, if not replicates, within murine (Cheers, & Gray. 1969), rabbit, or human (Saukkonen, *et al.* 1991) macrophages;, the latter results suggest that cell-mediated immunity may play a significant role in controlling pertussis infection.

T cell mediated response may be induced as a result of infection or immunization with the whole cell vaccine and, when induced by infection, it is accompanied by only minimal antibody responses. This result agrees with a report indicating the critical role of cellular immunity in the clearance of a *B. pertussis* primary infection from the murine respiratory tract (Mills, *et al.* 1993) and also demonstrates the importance of T cells in protective immunity acquired by immunization. Until recently, pertussis was considered to be a noninvasive mucosal infection giving rise to a toxin-mediated disease (Pittman,. 1979). Consistent with this view, most investigations of immunity to the disease have centered on humoral responses, particularly the levels of serum IgG, to selected antigens, mainly PT and putative adhesins (Charles, *et al.*. 1991.). However, more findings demonstrating the invasive potential of *B. pertussis* (Ewanowich, *et al.* 1989) and the presence of antigen-specific T-cell responses following infection (De Magistris, *et al.* 1988) have necessitated a reevaluation of potential protective mechanisms.

## **2-4 Clinical manifestation**

### **2-4-1 The incubation period**

The incubation period of pertussis is commonly 7 to 10 days, with a range of 4 to 21 days, and may rarely be as long as 42 days. (Gordon. *et al.* 1994).

### **2-4-2 The clinical course of the illness:**

#### **2-4-2-1 Catarrhal stage:**

It is characterized by the insidious onset of coryza (runny nose), sneezing, low-grade fever, and a mild, occasional cough, similar to the common cold. The cough gradually becomes more severe (Lenette *et al.* 1974).

#### **2-4-2-2 Paroxysmal stage:**

After 1-2 weeks the paroxysmal stage begins. It is during the paroxysmal stage that the diagnosis of pertussis is usually suspected. Characteristically, the patient has bursts, or paroxysms of numerous rapid coughs, apparently due to difficulty expelling thick mucus from the tracheobronchial tree. At the end of the paroxysm, a long inspiratory effort is usually accompanied by a characteristic high-pitched whoop. During such an attack, the patient may become cyanotic (turn blue). Children and young infants, especially, appear very ill and distressed. Vomiting and exhaustion commonly follow the episode (Lenette *et al.* 1974). The patient usually appears normal between attacks. Paroxysmal attacks occur more frequently at night, with an average of 15 attacks per 24 hours. During the first or second week of this stage the attacks increase in frequency, remain at the same level for 2 to 3 weeks, and

then gradually decrease (Mortimer. 1998). The paroxysmal stage usually lasts 1 to 6 weeks, but may persist for up to 10 weeks. Infants younger than 6 months of age may not have the strength to have a whoop, but they do have paroxysms of coughing (Manklark and Hill. 1984).

### **2-4-2-3 Convalescent stage:**

Recovery is gradual. The cough becomes less paroxysmal and disappears in 2 to 3 weeks (Guermontprez *et al.* 1999). However, paroxysms often recur with subsequent respiratory infections for many months after the onset of pertussis. Fever is generally minimal throughout the course of pertussis (Altemeier-III. 1981).

### **2-4-3 Complication**

Young infants are at highest risk for acquiring clinical pertussis, and for pertussis-associated complications. The most common complication, and the cause of most pertussis-related deaths, is secondary bacterial pneumonia (He *et al.* 1996; Johnston *et al.* 1998). Data from 1997-2000 indicate that pneumonia occurred among 5.2% of all reported pertussis cases, and among 11.8% of infants <6 months of age. Neurologic complications such as seizures and encephalopathy may occur as a result of hypoxia from coughing, or possibly from toxin (Mortimer. 1990). Neurologic complications of pertussis are more common among infants. In 1997-2000, seizures and encephalopathy were reported between 0.8% and 0.1%, respectively, of all cases, and among 1.4% Pertussis and 0.2%, respectively, of infants <6 months of age (Sherris *et al.* 1984). Other less serious complications of pertussis include otitis media, anorexia, and dehydration. Complications

resulting from pressure effects of severe paroxysms include pneumothorax, epistaxis, subdural hematomas, hernias, and rectal prolapse (Mortimer. 1998). In USA 1997-2000, 20% of all reported pertussis cases required hospitalization, including 63% of all infants <6 months of age. In a 4-year period, 62 deaths were due to pertussis (case-fatality rate 0.2%). Fifty-six (90%) of these deaths occurred in children <6 months of age (CDC. 2002).

## **2-5 Laboratory Diagnosis**

The diagnosis of pertussis is usually based upon a characteristic history and physical examination. However, laboratory tests may be useful in young infants, atypical cases, and cases modified by vaccine. The standard and preferred laboratory test for diagnosis of pertussis is:

### **2-5-1 Isolation of *B. pertussis* by culture:**

A positive culture for *B. pertussis* confirms the diagnosis. Fastidious growth requirements make *B. pertussis* difficult to isolate (Mertsola *et al.* 1983). Isolation of the organism using direct plating is most successful during the catarrhal stage (fig-5). Specimens from the posterior nasopharynx, not the throat, should be obtained using Dacron or calcium alginate (not cotton) swabs and should be plated directly onto selective media (Lenette *et al.* 1974). Success in isolating the organism declines with prior antibiotic therapy effective against pertussis (erythromycin or trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole) or delay in specimen collection beyond the first 2 weeks of illness, or in vaccinated persons. (Marcon, *et al.* 1987)

### **2-5-2 Polymerase chain reaction (PCR):**

Polymerase chain reaction testing of nasopharyngeal swabs or aspirates can be a rapid, sensitive, and specific method for diagnosing pertussis (Mastrantonio *et al.* 1998). Currently, it is only available in certain laboratories; the assays vary among laboratories and are not standardized (Muller *et al.* 1997). PCR should be used in addition to culture, not as a replacement for culture, because bacterial isolates may be required for the evaluation of antimicrobial resistance, or for molecular typing. (Fry, *et al.* 2004).

### **2-5-3 Direct fluorescent antibody (DFA):**

DFA testing of nasopharyngeal specimens may be useful as a screening test for pertussis (Holder, and Mortimer.1992). Because direct fluorescent antibody testing of nasopharyngeal secretions has been shown in some studies to have low sensitivity and variable specificity, it should not be relied on as a criterion for laboratory confirmation (Halperin, *et al.*. 1989).

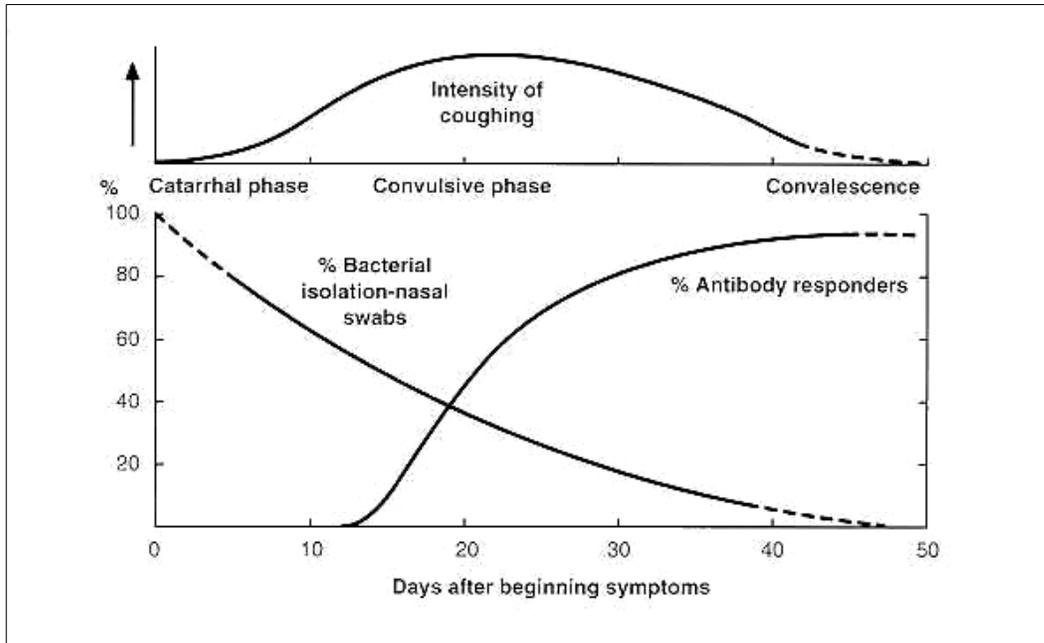
### **2-5-4 Lymphocyte count**

An elevated white blood cell count with a lymphocytosis is usually present in classical disease. The absolute lymphocyte count often reaches 20,000 or greater. However, there may be no lymphocytosis in infants and children or in mild or modified cases of pertussis. (Birkebaek, *et al.* . 1999)

### **2-5-5 Serological testing:**

Laboratory conformation of whooping cough is best achieved by the isolation of *B. pertussis*, as carriers occur rarely if at all. Where isolation has not been possible, serological methods may be useful in individual cases and

for epidemiological studies. Serology is also used to measure the response to vaccination (MacAulay. 1979).



**Fig (5): The sensitivity of culture and serology after the onset of pertussis symptoms. (American Academy of Pediatrics. 2003)**

### **2-5-5-1 Slide agglutination test (SAT)**

A slide agglutination test can be performed with a standard inoculum of organism and specific antiserum (Manklark and Hill .1984). Slide agglutination test can be performed with specific antiserum as soon as growth is apparent on Bordet-Gengou plates (Lenette *et al.* 1974). A variety of methods for performing agglutination tests on pertussis antisera have been proposed (Macaulay. 1979; Wilkins *et al.* 1971). Immunization with pertussis vaccine or recovery from pertussis disease may not always result in the production of agglutinins, and immunity may exist in the absence of demonstrable agglutinin; however, disease does not occur in the presence of agglutinins of high titer (Kendrick *et al.* 1969).

### **2-5-5-2 Counterimmunoelectrophoresis test (CIEPT)**

The technique was used for the identification of Ag-Ab reaction by precipitation and purity (Vancanneyt *et al.* 1995; Mohammed. 1997). CIEPT is a well-established technique for the rapid diagnosis of bacterial meningitis and pneumonia. Its major advantage is that it detects Ag and, therefore, it is positive early in the course of illness (Borel and Gnlesph. 1984, Vancanneyt *et al.* 1995). CIEPT was more sensitive than culture methods early in the course of the illness when the importance of symptoms is more difficult to assess (Borel and Gnlesph. 1984; Thompson. 1977).

### **2-5-5-3 Complement fixation test (CFT)**

The simple complement fixation test can be used to test either of Ag-Ab interaction or the presence or absence of complement (Tietz. 1970). The serological response of pertussis disease or immunization has been measured by the CFT (Bradstreet *et al.* 1972).

### **2-5-5-4 Indirect haemagglutination test (IHAT)**

Erythrocytes are not only good passive carrier of Ag, but also easily coated with foreign proteins and can easily be obtained and stored (Campell *et al.* 1970). The use of sheep RBCs sensitized with specific Ag provides a method which is more sensitive and specific than standard agglutination test for pertussis diagnosis (Mastrantonio *et al.* 1998).

### **2-5-5-5 Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent assay (ELISA)**

Most of the serological assays mentioned above lack sensitivity and/or specificity. The ELISA procedure has been used to measure the serological response to pertussis infection or immunization (Garnstorm G *et al.* 1988;

Baraff *et al.* 1983; Burstyn *et al.* 1983; Wassilak *et al.* 1983; Garnstorm M *et al.* 1982; Viljanen *et al.* 1982; Goodman *et al.* 1981; Ruuskanen *et al.* 1980).

By using whole *B. pertussis* cells as the antigen in an ELISA, Ruuskanen *et al.* (1980) reported an immunoglobulin G (IgG) response but low or undetectable IgM and IgA response in sera from vaccines. The same ELISA methods and antigens were used by Viljanene *et al.* (1982), who documented IgG, IgM and IgA responses in sera from pertussis patients and proposed that the presence of an IgG or IgA response was evidence of recent disease. Goodman *et al.*, (1981) used the ELISA to detect secretory IgA in nasopharyngeal secretions during and after natural infection, but they were not able to detect IgA after vaccination.

The enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay, using purified pertussis factors such as pertussis toxin (PT) or filamentous hemagglutinin (FHA), has been used extensively in epidemiological studies (Meade, *et al.* 1990). This technique has proven to be reasonably sensitive and specific (Granström, *et al.* 1988). It is generally concluded that a significant increase in specific anti-PT immunoglobulin G (IgG) or IgA and/or anti-FHA IgG or IgA in paired sera correlates with *Bordetella pertussis* infection (Garnstorm *et al.* 1988). The ELISA has been used for diagnosis of pertussis based on single serum sample using age-specific values for deferent populations (Wirsing von Konig *et al.* 1999). Several studies used the ELISA to determine the immune response to pertussis vaccine (Giammanco *et al.* 1997; Olin *et al.* 1997; Wirsing von konig *et al.* 1996; Hallander, *et al.* 1991).

## **2-6 Pertussis epidemiology**

### **2-6-1 Mode of transmission**

Pertussis is a highly contagious disease (Mortimer. 1998). The source of infection is usually a patient in the early catarrhal stage of disease (Brooks *et. al.* 2004). Transmission of pertussis infection probably occurs via secretion of the mouth and nose if infected individual, which serves as a primary vehicle to infect other individuals either directly (Nester *et al.* 1973; Wyss and Eklund. 1971), through droplets expelled into the air or indirectly, via contaminated handkerchiefs, towels, food, linens and similar objects (Wyss and Eklund. 1971). Humans beings are the only known source of *B. pertussis* (Manklark and Hill. 1984). In adults, 20-47% of those exposed to the disease develop infection. Lack of awareness of adult pertussis in patients with prolonged cough and the high incidence of subclinical disease (40%) results in intra-familial and nosocomial disease (Franso, *et al* , 1992).

### **2-6-2 Age and sex distribution**

Pertussis may occur at any age (Hoppe. 1998). Infants are susceptible to pertussis within the first few weeks or months of life, when mortality from whooping coughs are highest. For many years, it was assumed that one attack of pertussis provided lifelong immunity. Before the widespread vaccination, this belief was reflected by the age distribution of pertussis: approximately 20% of all whooping cough cases occurred in infants younger than 1 year, and as much as 60% among children aged 1 to 4 years (Luttinger. 1998).

More recently, in countries such as the United States in which pertussis vaccination is common, the age distribution of pertussis has markedly changed. Between 1992 and 1994, 28% of reported pertussis cases occurred in individuals 10 years and older (CDC. 1995), in contrast to less than 3% of patients being older than 15 years before the advent of widespread vaccination, 41% of cases providing age data occurred in infants younger than 1 year, compared with 45% in prior 3 years (Luttinger. 1998). Serologic surveys demonstrate a high frequency of non-diagnosed infection in young men (Cherry. 1995), and studies of adults with cough lasting more than 1 to 2 weeks demonstrate evidence of recent pertussis infection in more than 20% (Mink, *et al.* 1992 ; Wright, *et al.* 1995).

Although both sexes are presumably equally affected, pertussis is unusual in that, inexplicably, the disease is more often reported in females, who also exhibit higher mortality rates. It may be that the smaller larynx of female infants places them in greater jeopardy of severe disease (Mortimer. 1998; Mortimer. 1990; Mortimer. 1998).

### **2-6-3 Pertussis incidence in vaccinated and unvaccinated patients**

Prior to mass immunization, pertussis incidence was not decreasing. The introduction of mass immunization was associated with a five-to-100 fold reduction in pertussis incidence in Canada, England, Wales and the USA between 1930 and 1980. (Varughese. 1985; Cherry. 1984; Pollard. 1980).

Countries with consistently low pertussis incidence rates have had consistently high immunization coverage rates (e.g. Hungary and the former

East Germany) (Joo. 1991; Finger, *et al* .1991). Higher pertussis incidence rates in some countries now, and in others at intervals in the recent past, have been due to low immunization coverage and use of vaccines with low efficacy, or less than optimal immunization schedules. The higher incidence of pertussis in Canada compared with the USA during the 1980s and 1990s was due to the lower efficacy of the pertussis vaccine used in Canada. (DeSerres *et al* . 1996).

Countries that have experienced large increases in pertussis incidence in association with reductions in vaccine coverage include the UK, Sweden and Japan (Miller, *et al* 1992; White, *et al*. 1996; Romanus, *et al*. 1987; Noble. *et al*. 1987; Kimura & Kuno-Sakai. 1990).

#### **2-6-4 Seasonal influence on pertussis incidence**

Pertussis is endemic with superimposed epidemics in most densely populated areas all over the world (Black. 1997). Cycles every 3-4 years after accumulation of susceptible cohort (Rota *et al*. 1998). The majority of cases occur in late winter and early spring (. Rota *et al*. 1998), some reports indicate a higher incidence in summer when young infants probably are in more with each other, and some alleged no seasonal variation (Mortimer. 1998).

#### **2-6-5 Nosocomial Transmission**

Transmission of pertussis in hospital settings has been documented in numerous reports (Shefer, *et al* 1995). The number of patients and staff who have developed clinical pertussis indicates that these outbreaks have been of limited size, and no deaths due to nosocomial transmission have been

<u>Chapter two</u>	3
<u>Literatures review</u>	5

reported; however, their impact has been large (Linnemann, *et al* 1975).

These outbreaks have resulted from failure to recognize and isolate infected infants and children, failure to recognize and treat disease in staff members, and failure to institute control measures rapidly (Kurt. *et al* 1972). Either a health-care worker or a patient may introduce *B. pertussis* into the hospital or clinic, and subsequent transmission to patients or health-care workers (or both) may occur. The risk of developing pertussis for patients or staff during these outbreaks is often difficult to quantify because exposure is not well defined (Kurt, *et al.* 1972).

## **2-7 Pertussis immunization**

### **2-7-1 Passive immunization**

**2-7-1-1 Transplacental:** Antibodies to PT and FHA readily cross the placenta and are found in infants sera in concentration comparable to those in maternal sera. The half-life of these transplacental antibodies appears to be about 6 weeks, and they disappear by 4 months of age (Van Savage *et al.* 1990). However, these antibodies appear to offer little or no clinical protection, because infants of mothers, who are presumed to be immune to pertussis, whether because of immunization or disease, are susceptible to pertussis on exposure. Indeed, from 1980 to 1989, 31% of the cases of pertussis reported to CDC were in children younger than 6 months, and the highest average annual age-specific incidence rate during those years was among infants 1 to 2 months of age (Farizo *et al.* 1992).

**2-7-1-2 Therapeutic:** Before the widespread use of pertussis vaccine and the availability, passive immunization using whole sera was employed in an

effort to prevent the spread of disease to exposed susceptible people and to modify the course of the illness in those who had already acquired whooping cough (Plotkin and Orenstein. 1999). In most of the studies of preventive efficacy, individuals were not controlled; a few studies that did include control subjects suggested that as many as 40% of recipients were protected (Pittman. 1984). The subsequent development of methods for purification of serum immune globulin led to the commercial production of pertussis hyperimmune globin, composed largely of IgG (Department of Health and Human Services, FDA. 1985). Although this preparation was widely used for prophylaxis and treatment, controlled studies showed that it had no effect, and production was discontinued (Balagtas *et al.* 1971). More recently, new preparation of pertussis immune globulin has been prepared and evaluated in animal models and human. Sato and Sato (1991) demonstrate that both monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies to PT improved survival of sucking mice after aerosol challenge with live pertussis organisms. The ability to generate high-titer immune globulin by immunizing adults with safe acellular pertussis vaccine led to a reassessment of the use of immune globulin as therapy for pertussis. In 1991, Granstorm and colleagues conducted a double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled trial of a pertussis immune globulin prepared from adults immunized with an acellular vaccine containing PT or PT plus FHA. A significant reduction in the duration of whoops was demonstrated in recipients of the pertussis immune globulin compared with placebo recipients.

## **2-7-2 Active immunization**

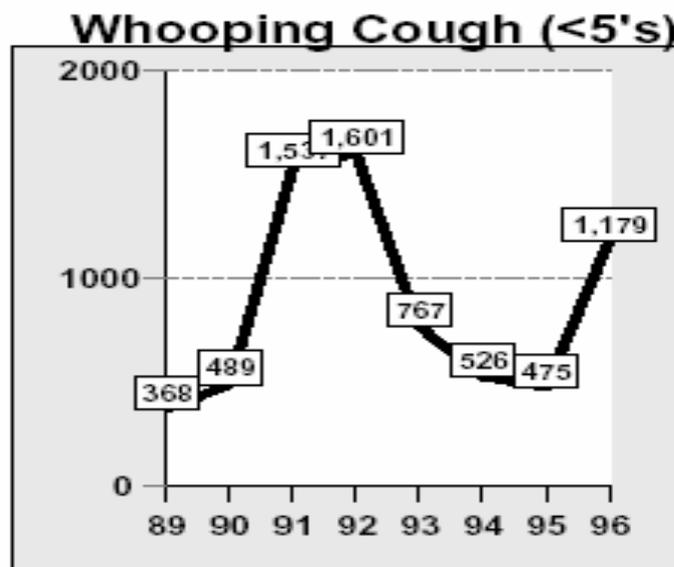
### **Pertussis vaccine**

Whole-cell pertussis vaccine is composed of a suspension of formalin-inactivated *B. pertussis* cells. It was developed in the 1930s, and used widely in clinical practice by the mid-1940s. Whole cell vaccine plays an important role in the control of pertussis in the world and the vaccine proved to be very successful during nearly 50 years of its use (Galazka. 1997). Based on controlled efficacy trials conducted in the 1940s and on subsequent observational efficacy studies, a primary series of four doses of whole-cell DTP vaccine was 70% to 90% effective in preventing serious pertussis disease (Tozzi *et al.* 1998; Grnoff and Rappuoli. 1997). Protection from pertussis vaccine decreased with time, resulting in little or no protection 5 to 10 years following the last dose (Beque and Griprel. 1996; Edward and Decker. 1997). Local reactions such as redness, swelling, and pain at the injection site occurred following up to half of the doses of whole-cell DTP vaccines. Fever and other mild systemic events were also common. More severe systemic reactions, such as convulsions and hypotonic hyporesponsive episodes occurred less frequently (one case to 1,750 doses administered) (He *et al.* 1994). In 1981 acellular pertussis vaccines were introduced in Japan. The traditional acellular pertussis vaccines was made of the portion of culture supernatant of *B. pertussis* Tahoma strain phase 1 which contain hemagglutinin activity. The major components of this portion were PT and FHA (Kimura and Kuno-Sakai. 1990; Edwards and Karazon. 1990; Mills *et al.* 1998). The acellular DPT vaccine was either one containing FHA,



The incidence of pertussis is still high in Iraq (2,312 reported cases in 2001) and appears to be increasing (Table-2). The high incidence (fig-6) despite high vaccination coverage can be attributed to the following factors:

- Immunization protection mostly covers children 5-9 years of age who have taken four or five doses of DTP. Infants under 6 months of age who have not yet received the full benefit of immunization, and adolescent and adult populations with diminishing effectiveness of the vaccine, are usually the most affected groups.
- Poor nutrition is common, especially among infants, leading to malnutrition, and severely increasing the risk of infection and disease (WHO. 2003).



**Figure (6): Trends of Whooping cough in Iraq (South/Centre) 1989 to 1996.  
(UNICEF/Iraq. 1998)**

Since 1990, Iraq's immunization services were interrupted (Table-3). The Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) coverage was affected, with disruption of vaccine supply, of the cold chain and in the health service upheaval in general. This compromised protection against preventable childhood diseases and their incidence rose steeply in 1991 and in some - measles and whooping cough continued rising in 1992. The decline in most conditions is a reflection of successful EPI efforts (UNICEF/Iraq. 1998).

Pertussis is a potential problem if introduced into crowded refugee settings with many non-immunized children DTP3 coverage (UNICEF/Iraq. 1998).

**Table (3): DPT vaccine coverage in Iraq (UNICEF/Iraq. 1998).**

<b>The year</b>	<b>DTP coverage (%)</b>	<b>Source of information</b>
1980	13	Official country estimation
1990	83	Official country estimation
1998	86	Official country estimation
1999	90	WHO-UNICEF survey database
2000	86	Official country estimation
2001	74	WHO-UNICEF estimation
2002	67	WHO-UNICEF estimation

## **Materials & Methods**

### **3-1 Study Design and Study Groups**

#### **3-1-1 Patients:**

Blood samples were collected from 68 Hospitalized patients with clinically diagnosed pertussis; it was conducted from January 2004 to December 2004 in the Babylon Maternity and Children Hospital in Hilla City. The blood samples were collected from patients of less than 18 years old.

The diagnosis of each case depends on clinical diagnosis and that was based on the following criteria (CDC. 1997): patients with a cough lasting at least 2 weeks with one of the following:

- Paroxysmal cough
- Inspiratory whoop
- Post-tussive vomiting
- Early diagnosis of an epidemiological link to pertussis case.

Serum samples from patients with clinical symptoms of pertussis were stored at – 10 °C in the laboratory of the Babylon Maternity and Children Hospital. The ELISA tests were done in the Public Health Laboratory in Hilla. For each patient, a complete information indicating age, sex, duration of illness, sign and symptoms, immunization status, residency, history of close contact with a pertussis case within or external to the family was collected.

### **3-1-2 Normal population**

Blood samples collected from 103 normal subjects in 7 age groups with different immunization status (Table-4):

**Table (4): The age groups and immunization status of the normal subjects.**

Age groups	Immunization status		Total
	Immunized	Unimmunized	
> 2 months	0	14	14
2-4 months	7	7	14
5-7 months	7	7	14
8 months – 1 year	7	7	14
2 – 6 year	7	7	14
7 – 18 year	7	7	14
Adults	14	5	19
Total	49	54	103

The blood samples from normal children were done in 3 different health-care centers in Hilla City in addition to Babylon Maternity and Children Hospital. The adult samples were collected from students of medical college, Babylon University.

### **3-1-3 Healthcare workers**

In order to show the role of the healthcare workers in the hospital in nosocomial infection and epidemiology of pertussis 20 blood samples were collected from medical staff, including doctors, nursing staff, laboratory staff and other health worker in Babylon Maternity and Children Hospital.

## **3-2 Material**

### **3-2-1 Equipments and tools**

**Table (5): Equipments and tools used in this study.**

<b>Device</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>Origin</b>
Refrigerator	Liebher	Austria
Freezer	Liebher	Austria
Centrifuge	Heraeus	Germany
Automatic Pipette 5, 50, 100, 500 ml	Slamed	Germany
Microtiter plate spectrophotometer	Beckman coulter	Austria
Microtiter plate washer	Beckman coulter	Austria

### **3-2-2 Bordetella pertussis IgG and IgA ELISA kits :**

The ELISA *Bordetella pertussis* (IgG, IgA) kits were provided by IBL (Immuno-Biological Laboratories) – Hamburg-Germany, in association with MEDQUICK Test Company – Los Anglos – California USA.

#### **3-2-2-1 Contents of the test kits:**

##### **A) *Bordetella pertussis* IgG ELISA kit:**

- **Microtiter Strips:** strips with 8 breakable wells each, coated with *Bordetella pertussis* antigens (Pertussis toxin, Filamentous Hemagglutinin, different Liopolysaccharides).
- **Standard A-D:**

<b>Standard</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>
Concentration of IgG in U/ml	1	20	45	150

**Standard A:** 2 ml, protein solution diluted with PBS, contains no IgG antibodies against *Bordetella pertussis*. Addition of 0.01%, with 0.01 potassium tetraiodomercurate

**Standard B:** 2 ml human serum diluted with PBS contains a low concentration of IgG antibodies against *Bordetella pertussis*. , with 0.01 potassium tetraiodomercurate.

**Standard C:** 2 ml, human serum diluted with PBS, contains a medium concentration of IgG antibodies against *Bordetella pertussis*. , with 0.01 potassium tetraiodomercurate

**Standard C:** 2 ml, human serum diluted with PBS, contains a high concentration of IgG antibodies against *Bordetella pertussis.* , with 0.01 potassium tetraiodomercurate

- **Enzyme Conjugate:** 12 ml, anti-human-IgG-HRP (rabbit), conjugated to protein-containing buffer solution.
- **Tetramethylbenzidine (TMB) Substrate Solution:** 12 ml.
- **TMB Stop Solution:** 12 ml, 0.5 M sulfuric acid (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>).
- **Sample Diluent:** 60 ml, PBS/BSA buffer. Addition of 0.01 % potassium tetraiodomercurate.
- **Washing Buffer concentrates (10x):** 60 ml, PBS + Tween 20, 10x concentrate.
- **Plastic Foils:** 2 pieces to cover the microtiter strips during the incubation.
- **Plastic Bag:** Resealable, for the dry storage of non-used strips.

**B) *Bordetella pertussis* IgA ELISA kit**

- **Microtiter Strips:** strips with 8 breakable wells each coated with a *Bordetella pertussis* antigens (Pertussis toxin, Filamentous Hemagglutinin, different Lipopolysaccharides serotype 1,2 and 3).
- **Standard A-D:**

<b>Standard</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>
Concentration of IgA in U/ml	1	10	20	50

**Standard A:** 2 ml, protein solution diluted with PBS, contains no IgA antibodies against *Bordetella pertussis*. Addition of 0.01%, with 0.01 potassium tetraiodomercurate

**Standard B:** 2 ml human serum diluted with PBS, contains a low concentration of IgA antibodies against *Bordetella pertussis*. , with 0.01 potassium tetraiodomercurate.

**Standard C:** 2 ml, human serum diluted with PBS, contains a medium concentration of IgA antibodies against *Bordetella pertussis*. , with 0.01 potassium tetraiodomercurate

**Standard C:** 2 ml, human serum diluted with PBS, contains a high concentration of IgA antibodies against *Bordetella pertussis*. , with 0.01 potassium tetraiodomercurate

- **Enzyme Conjugate:** 12 ml, anti-human-IgA-HRP (rabbit), conjugated to protein-containing buffer solution.
- **Tetramethylbenzidine (TMB) Substrate Solution:** 12 ml.
- **TMB Stop Solution:** 12 ml, 0.5 M sulfuric acid (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>).
- **Sample Diluent:** 60 ml, PBS/BSA buffer. Addition of 0.01 % potassium tetraiodomercurate.
- **Washing Buffer concentrates (10x):** 60 ml, PBS + Tween 20, 10x concentrate.
- **Plastic Foils:** 2 pieces to cover the microtiter strips during the incubation.

**Plastic Bag:** Resealable for the dry storage of non-used strips.

## **3-3 Methods**

### **3-3-1 Specimens Collection and Storage**

The blood samples were obtained by venipuncture from all study groups after cleaning the skin with 70 % alcohol, then the blood samples were stored in plastic tubes, To separate the blood samples they were allowed to clot undisturbed for about 1 h at room temperature. Then loosed the clot gently from the tube wall by means of a wooden stick, then centrifuge for 10 min at about 1200g. Then transfer the serum for other tubes for storage under -10 to -20 °C. (Lewis, et al . 2001) .

### **3-3-2 Samples storing**

After the collection of serum samples, they were stored at – 10 °C until they were tested by ELISA technique for quantitative determination of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and IgA.

### **3-3-3 ELISA assay procedure**

The researcher depended on IBL Co. instructions in ELISA assay (IBL Catalog No. RE 561 31).

#### **3-3-3-1 Preparation of samples and reagents**

##### **1) Samples**

Before use, the patient's serum samples were diluted 1 to 100 with sample diluent (5µl of sample + 500 µl buffer).

##### **2) Wash Buffer**

The wash buffer was diluted with distilled water 1 to 10 (10 ml concentrate + 90 ml distilled water).

### **3-3-3-2 Assay procedure**

1. A sufficient amount of microtiter wells was prepared for the standard controls and samples.
2. 100  $\mu$ L from each of the diluted (1:100) samples and the standards were pipeted into appropriate wells of the strip.
3. The plates were covered with the enclosed foil and incubated at room temperature for 60 minutes.
4. The incubation solution was discarded, and the wells were rinsed 3x with 300  $\mu$ l of wash buffer.
5. 100  $\mu$ l of enzyme conjugate was added to each well in sequence.
6. The plates were covered with enclosed foil and incubated for 30 minute at room temperature.
7. The incubation solution was discarded, and the wells were rinsed 3x with 300  $\mu$ l of wash buffer.
8. 100  $\mu$ l of TMB substrate solution was pipeted into the rinsed wells.
9. The plates were covered with enclosed foil and incubated for 20 min at room temperature.
10. The reaction stopped by adding 100  $\mu$ l of TMB stop solution to each well.
11. The microtiter strips shaken gently and the reading was at 450 nm with in 60 minutes.

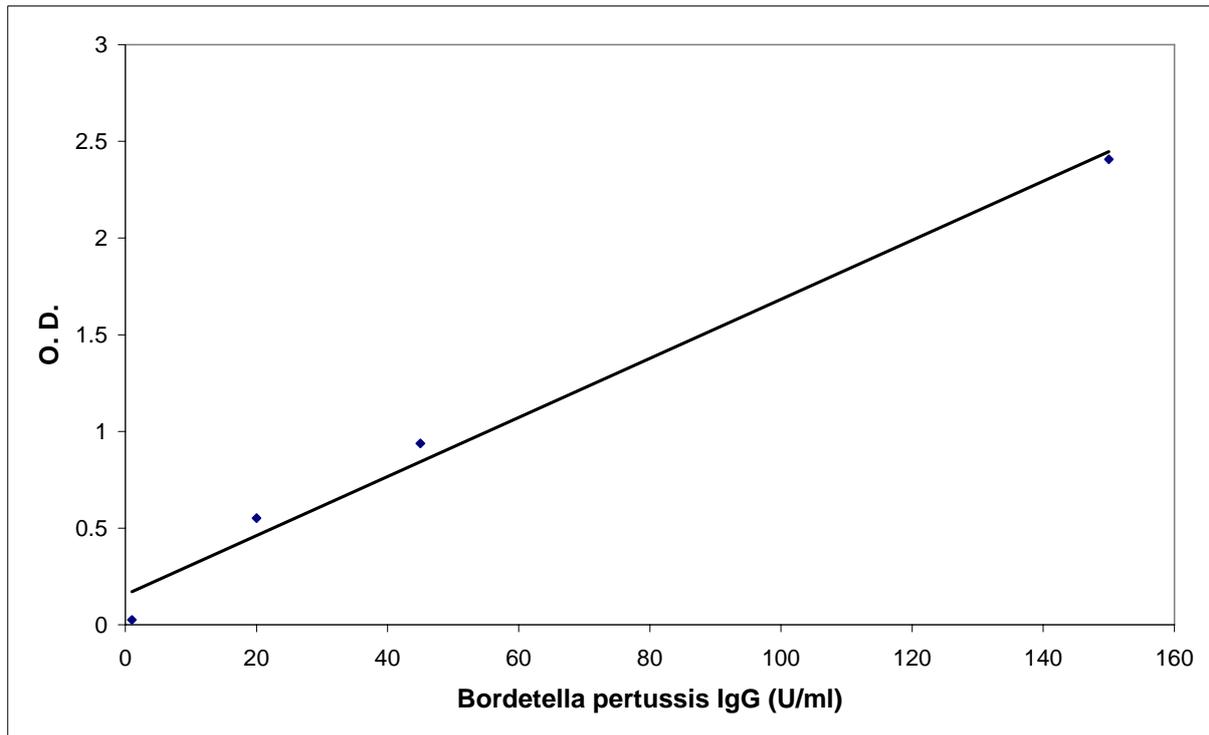
### **3-3-4 Quantitative evaluation**

For quantitative evaluation the absorption of the standards is graphically drawn against their concentration. From the resulting standard

curve and their linear equation the concentration for each patients sample can be extracted in relation to his absorption.

### **3-3-4-1 The standard curve and the linear equation of *Bordetella pertussis* IgG**

The standard curve was drawn depending on the absorption of the standards (Y) and their concentration (X):



**Figure (7): The standard curve of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG.**

**Extraction of the linear equation**

**Table (6): Statistical data of the linear equation of IgG.**

Y*	X**	XY	Y <sup>2</sup>	X <sup>2</sup>
0.025	1	0.025	0.000625	1
0.551	20	11.02	0.303601	400
0.938	45	42.21	0.879844	2025
2.407	150	361.05	5.793649	22500
3.921	216	414.305	6.977719	24926

\* O. D. value

\*\* IgG concentration (U/ml)

$$b = \frac{\sum xy - \left( \sum x \frac{\sum y}{n} \right)}{\sum x^2 - \left[ \frac{(\sum x)^2}{n} \right]}$$

$$b = \frac{414.305 - \left( 216 \frac{3.921}{4} \right)}{24926 - \left[ \frac{(216)^2}{4} \right]}$$

$$b = 0.0152745$$

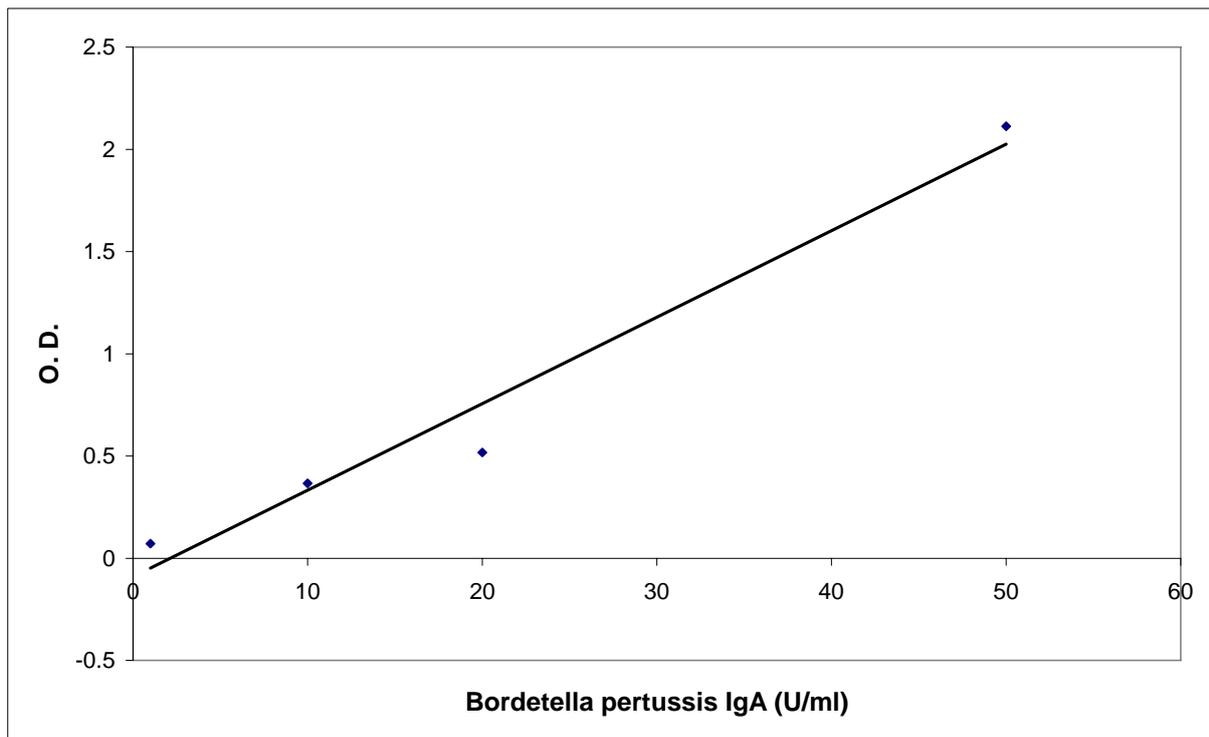
$$a = \bar{Y} - b\bar{X} = \frac{3.921}{4} - 0.0152745 \frac{216}{4}$$

$$a = 0.1554247$$

$Y = 0.1554 + 0.0153X$
------------------------

### 3-3-4-2 The standard curve and the linear equation of *Bordetella pertussis* IgA

The standard curve was drawn depending on the absorption of the standards (Y) and their concentration (X) :



**Figure (8):** The standard curve of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA.

**Extraction of the linear equation**

**Table (7): Statistical data of the liner equation of IgA.**

Y*	X**	XY	Y <sup>2</sup>	X <sup>2</sup>
0.071	1	0.071	1	0.005041
0.366	10	3.66	100	0.133956
0.517	20	10.34	400	0.267289
2.112	50	105.6	2500	4.460544
3.066	81	119.671	3001	4.86683

\* O. D. value

\*\* IgA concentration (U/ml)

$$b = \frac{\sum xy - (\sum x \frac{\sum y}{n})}{\sum x^2 - \left[ \frac{(\sum x)^2}{n} \right]}$$

$$b = \frac{119.671 - (81 \frac{3.066}{4})}{3001 - \left[ \frac{(81)^2}{4} \right]}$$

$$b = 0.0423182$$

$$a = \bar{Y} - b\bar{X} = \frac{3.066}{4} - 0.0423182 \frac{81}{4}$$

$$a = -0.0904435$$

$Y = -0.0904 + 0.0423X$
-------------------------

### **3-3-5 Interpretation of the results**

The results of each sample were assessed as the following (Melker, H.E., *et al*, 1999; Redhead K *et al*. 1993; Baughman AL *et al*.2004):

- IgG level (in U/ml) at least 100 U/ml considered a diagnostic of recent or active infection with *Bordetella pertussis*. Such levels are present in less than 1% of the population and are reached in most pertussis patients
- IgA level (in U/ml) at least 12 U/ml is considered a diagnostic of active infection.

### **3-3-6 Statistical analysis:**

Differences between means were compared by student's *t* test under confidence level of 0.95; the P value  $\leq 0.05$  was considered a significant difference and P value  $> 0.05$  was considered a non significant differences.

### **3-3-7 Sensitivity and Specificity**

To calculate diagnostic sensitivity and specificity the following formula is used (Rodgers, 1994):

$$\text{Diagnostic Sensitivity} = \frac{\text{True positive}}{\text{True positive} + \text{False negative}}$$

$$\text{Diagnostic Specificity} = \frac{\text{True Negative}}{\text{True Negative} + \text{False positive}}$$

## Results

### 4-1 Age distribution of the pertussis patients

The age distribution of the 68 pertussis patients presented in this study is shown in Fig (10). The age of patients ranged (1 month-16 years). There were 33 (49%) of the patients under 1 year old, 22 (32%) 1-3 years, 3 (4%) 4-6 years, 7 (10%) 7-9 years, 0 in 10-12 years, 2 (3%) 13-15 years, and 1 (2%) 16-18 years (fig. 9). The data show that the No. of cases is reduced by the increase in age. The higher rate of pertussis is in infants under 1 year old. In this age group 58% of the patients are unvaccinated with DTP vaccine (Table-8).

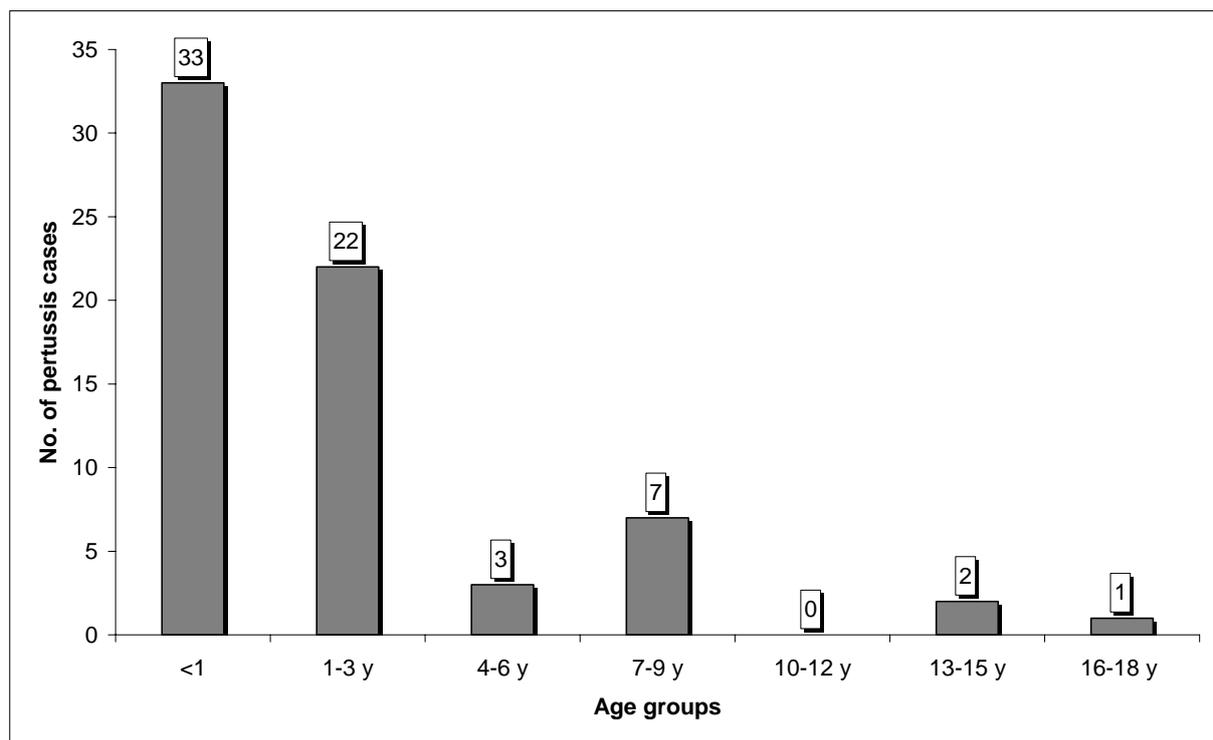


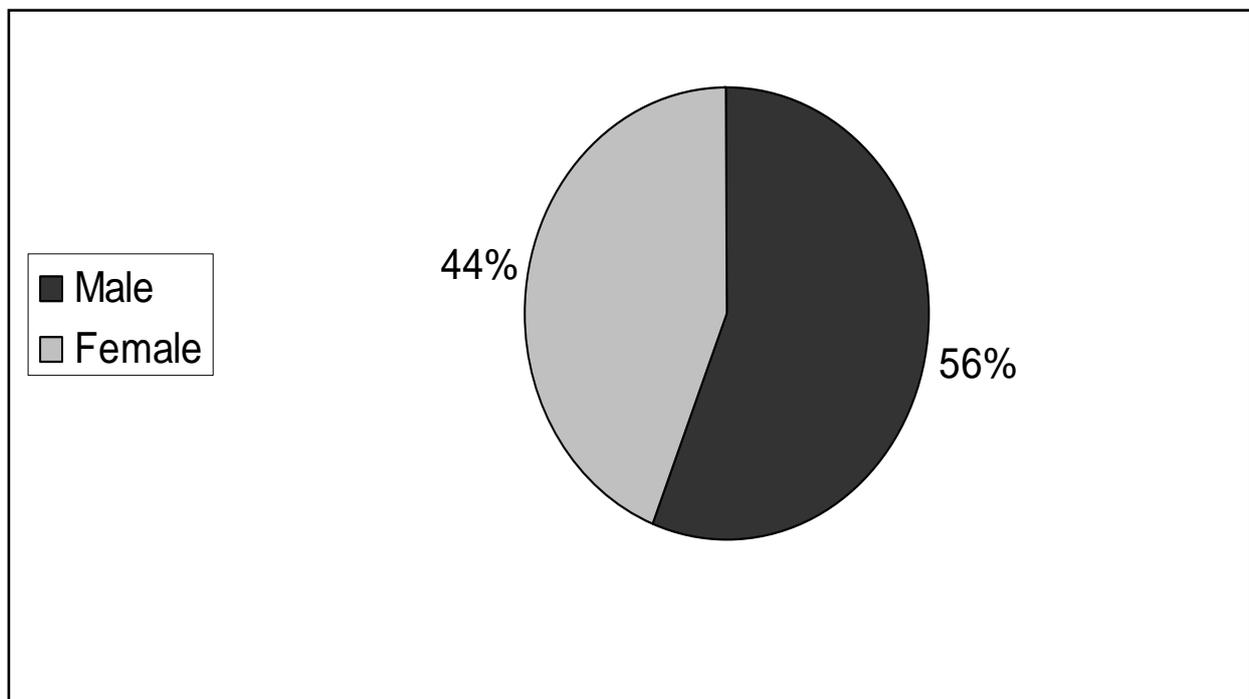
Figure (9): Age distribution of the pertussis patients

**Table (8): Age distribution and vaccination status of the patients.**

Age group (years)	No. of cases (%)		Total
	Vaccinated	Unvaccinated	
less than 1	14 (42)	19 (58)	33 (49)
1-3	8 (36)	14 (64)	22 (32)
4-6	2 (67)	1 (33)	3 (4)
7-9	7 (100)	-	7 (10)
10-12	-	-	-
13-15	-	2 (100)	2 (3)
16-18	1 (100)	-	1 (2)
Total	32 (47)	36 (53)	68 (100)

## 4-2 Sex distribution of the patients

The sex distribution of the patients was shown in Figure (10). There were 38 (56%) males of the patients and 30 (44%) were females. The male to female ratio was 1.27:1.



**Figure (10): Sex distribution of the pertussis patients.**

### 4-3 Residential distribution of the patients

The residential distribution of the patients is shown in Figure (11). 48 (71%) of the patients were rural residents, and 20 (29%) of the patients were urban residents.

Table (9) shows that, of the 48 rural area resident patients, there were 34 (71%) (50 % to the total No. of patients) unvaccinated patients. Only 14 (29%) (21% of the total No of patients) was vaccinated patients. While, for urban 26 % were vaccinated and 3 % were unvaccinated.

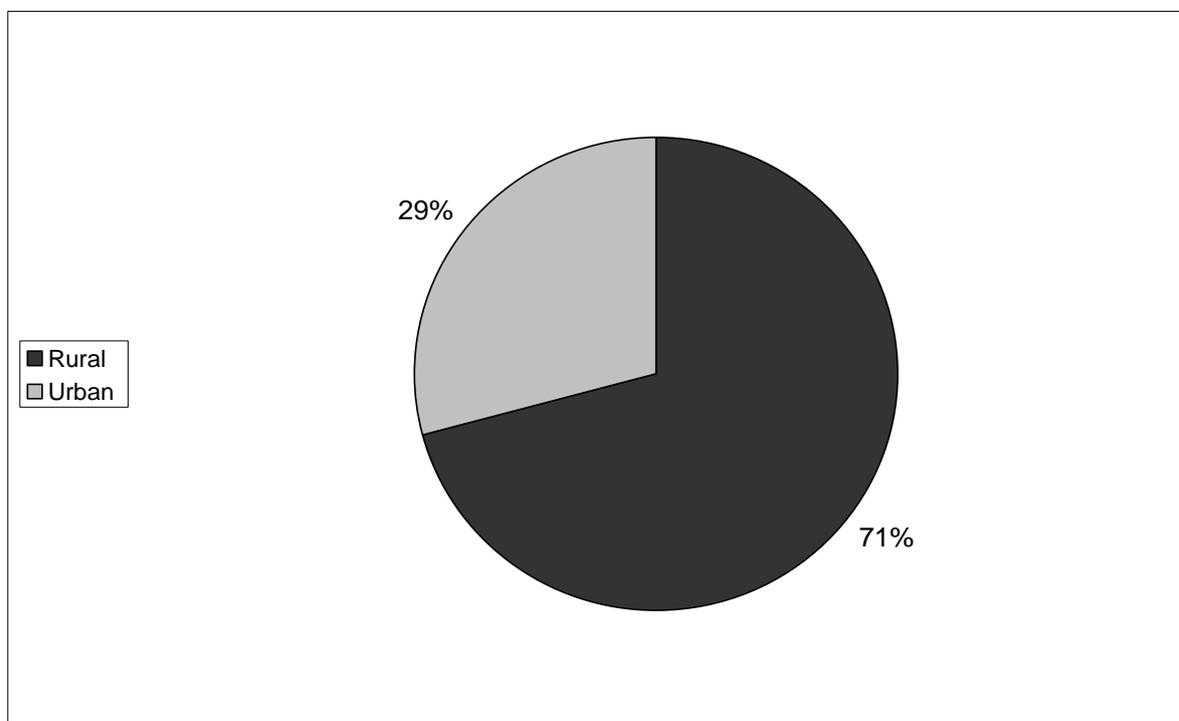


Figure (11): The residential distribution of the pertussis patients

Table (9): The residential distribution of the vaccinated and unvaccinated patients with DTP vaccine.

Vaccination status	Rural area resident	Urban area resident	Total
Vaccinated	14 (21%)	18 (26%)	32 (47%)
Unvaccinated	34 (50%)	2 (3%)	36 (53%)
<b>Total</b>	48 (71%)	20 (29%)	68 (100%)

### 4-4 Vaccination status of the patients

The vaccination status of the patients in this study with DTP vaccine was shown in Figure (12). There were 36 (53%) of the patients unvaccinated, 26 (38%) of the patients was vaccinated with one (1) dose of DTP vaccine; there is no patient who has 2 doses of DTP vaccine, and 6 (9%) was vaccinated with 3 doses of DTP vaccine. The higher rate of pertussis in this study was noticed in unvaccinated and 1 dose vaccinated patients. There were no children who had received any booster doses after 1 year.

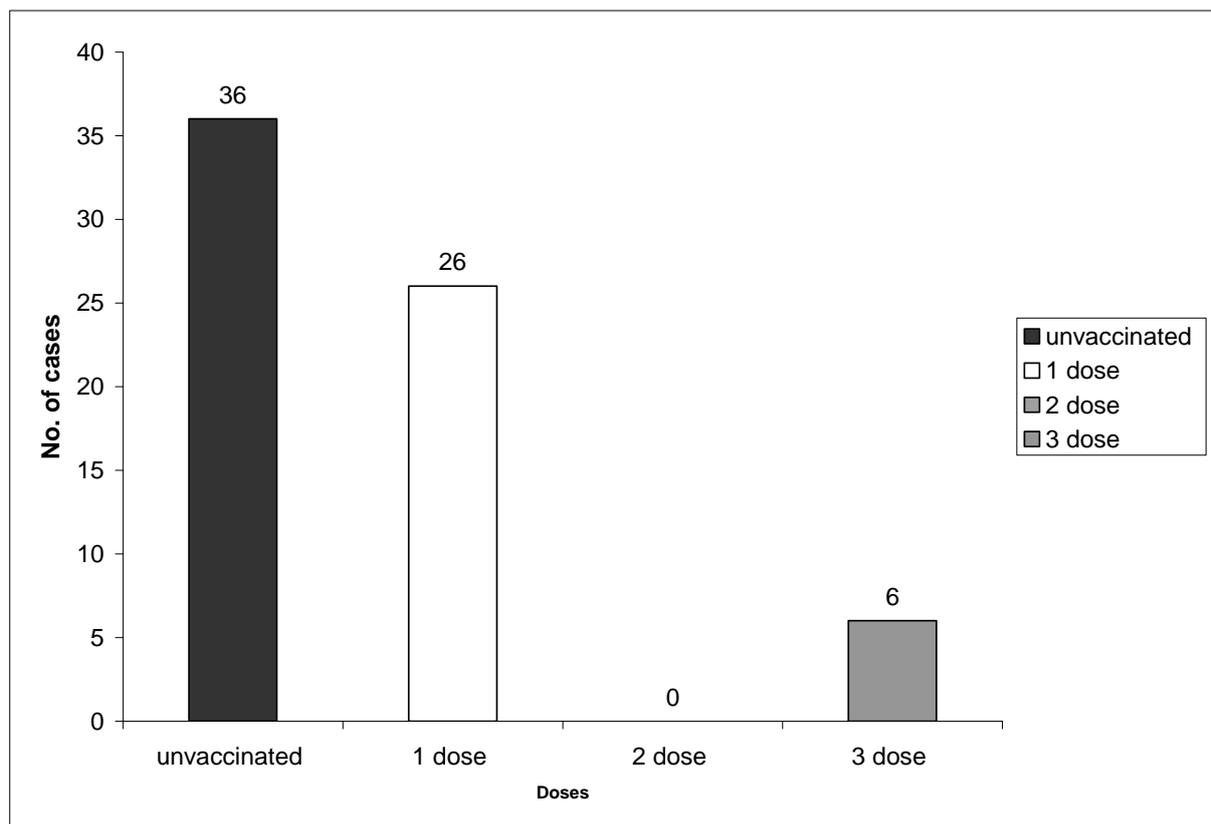


Figure (12): Vaccination status of the pertussis patients

### 4-5 The complication of pertussis

Several complications were noticed in pertussis patients. Apnea was the most common pertussis complication which has been noticed. Of the 68 pertussis patients there were 60 (88%) suffering from apnea. The other complications noticed were, seizure 18 (26%), pneumonia 20 (29%) and death 3 (4%).

The age distribution of complicated pertussis cases shows that a high incidence of complications was noticed in patients aged less than 3 years. Fig (13)

The vaccination status of complicated pertussis show high incidence of complication in unvaccinated patients, especially pertussis patients with pneumonia. 75% of the patients with pneumonia were noticed in unvaccinated patients. All three deaths reported in this study were unvaccinated patients. Fig (14)

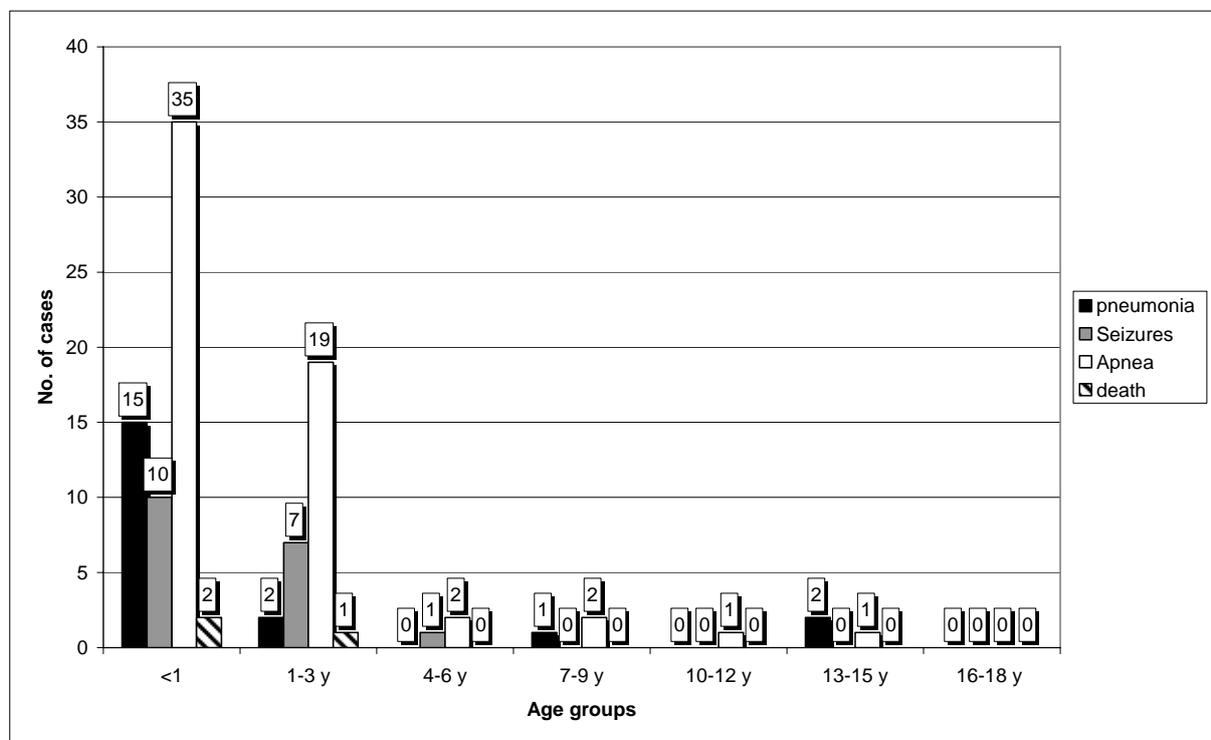


Figure (13): Age distribution of the pertussis complication.

Results

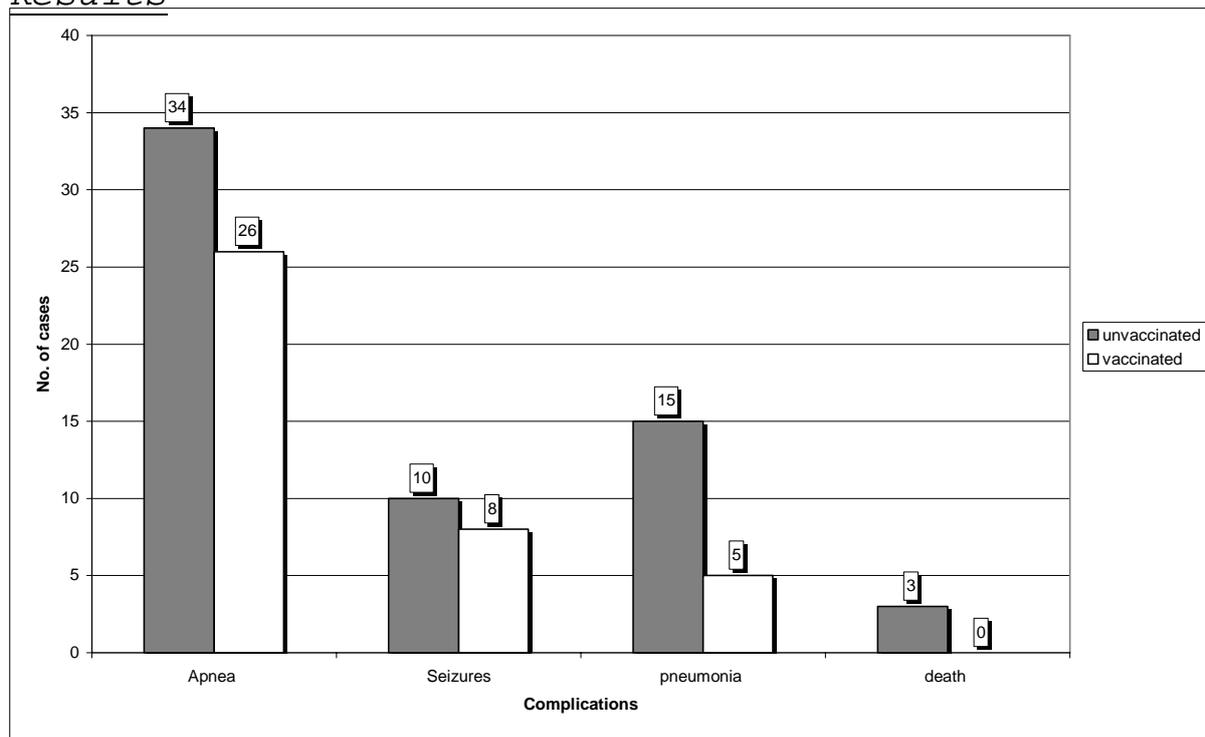


Figure (14): Vaccination status of complicated pertussis cases.

### 4-6 The seasonal distribution of pertussis cases

Fig (15) shows the distribution of pertussis cases presented in this study during the study period. The pertussis cases show a high incidence in the period between March and July, (in summer and spring).

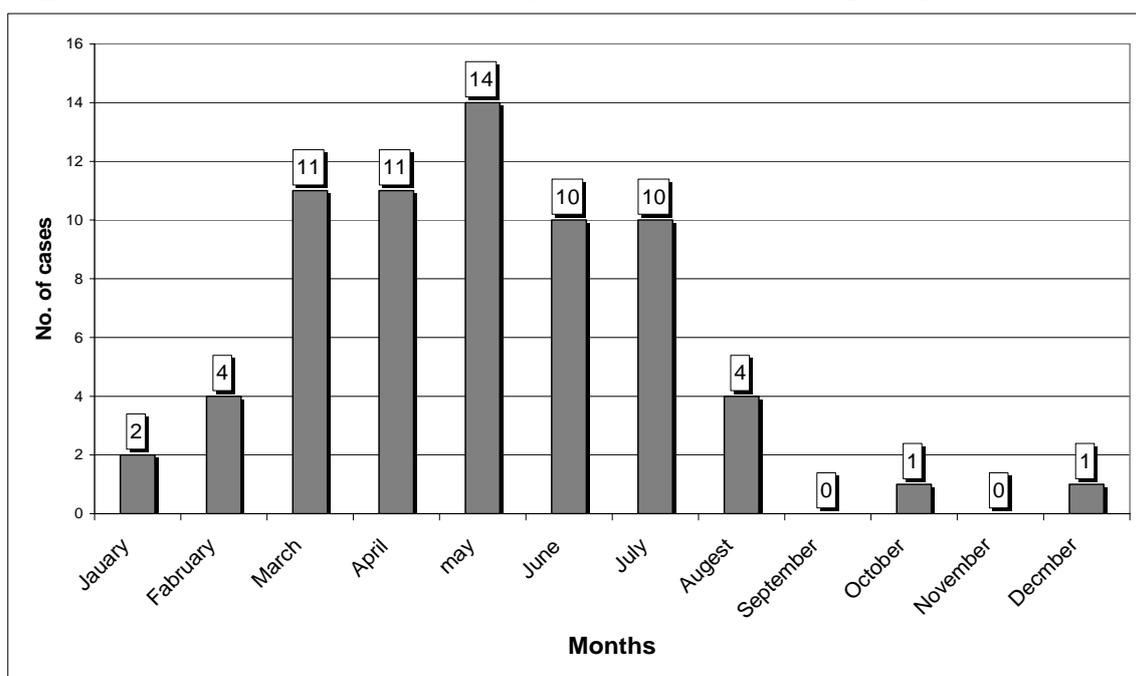


Fig (15): Distribution of pertussis cases in the study period.

#### 4-7 Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG response in unvaccinated patients and normal population:

The specific IgG antibodies against *Bordetella pertussis* surface antigens (pertussis toxin, filamentous haemagglutinin and lipopolysaccharids) were measured by the ELISA technique in 36 unvaccinated patients and the results were compared with 49 unvaccinated normal children in the same age groups. Figure (16) and table (11) shows the means of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG levels in unvaccinated patients and normal children. The mean anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG level in unvaccinated patients was (149.75) U/ml compared with (30.51) U/ml in normal children. The levels of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG were significantly higher ( $p < 0.05$ ) in unvaccinated patients than in unvaccinated normal children in all age groups.

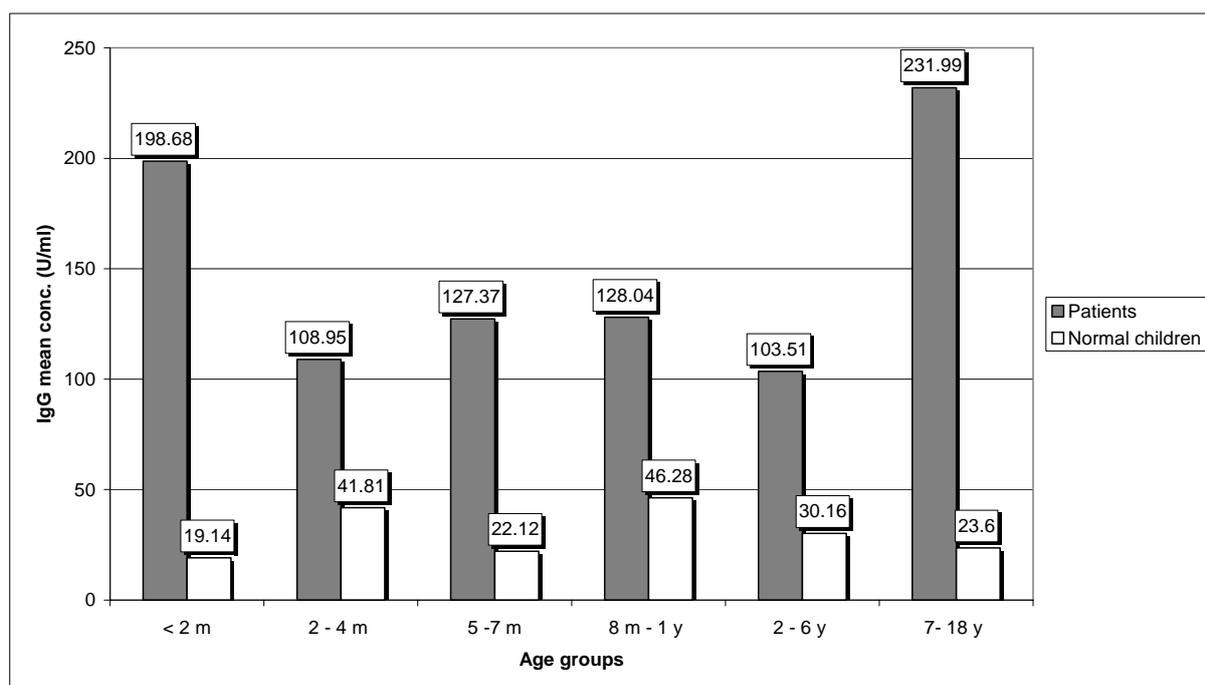
Table (12) shows the diagnostic sensitivity and specificity and the statistical analysis of differences between the patients and normal children. The age groups (< 2 months), (5-7 months), (8 months-1year) and (7-18 year) shows 100% sensitivity. The age group (2-4 months) shows 75% sensitivity. The lowest sensitivity 50% was in age group (2-6 years). The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG ELISA shows 77% sensitivity and 100% specificity in unvaccinated children.

**Table (11): The Anti *B. pertussis* antibody mean level in study groups**

Group	Anti <i>B. pertussis</i> antibody mean level (U/ml)			
	Vaccinated		Unvaccinated	
	IgG	IgA	IgG	IgA
<b>Patients</b>	128.04	11.30	149.75	13.33
<b>Normal</b>	56.41	9.05	29.33	4.79

**Table (12): The P value and sensitivity & specificity of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG in unvaccinated patients and normal children.**

Age groups	Means IgG levels U/ml		P value	No. of positive cases / total	Sensitivity	Specificity
	Patients	Normal				
< 2 months	198.68	19.14	0.0001	5/5	100 %	100 %
2-4 months	108.95	41.81	$8.9 \times 10^{-5}$	6/8	75 %	100 %
5-7 months	127.37	22.12	$6.03 \times 10^{-7}$	4/4	100 %	100 %
8 m-1 year	128.04	46.28	$2.93 \times 10^{-7}$	5/5	100 %	100 %
2-6 year	103.51	30.16	0.007	6/12	50 %	100 %
7-18 year	231.99	23.6	$3.64 \times 10^{-8}$	2/2	100 %	100 %
Total				28/36	77%	100%



**Figure (16): Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG mean levels in unvaccinated patients and normal children.**

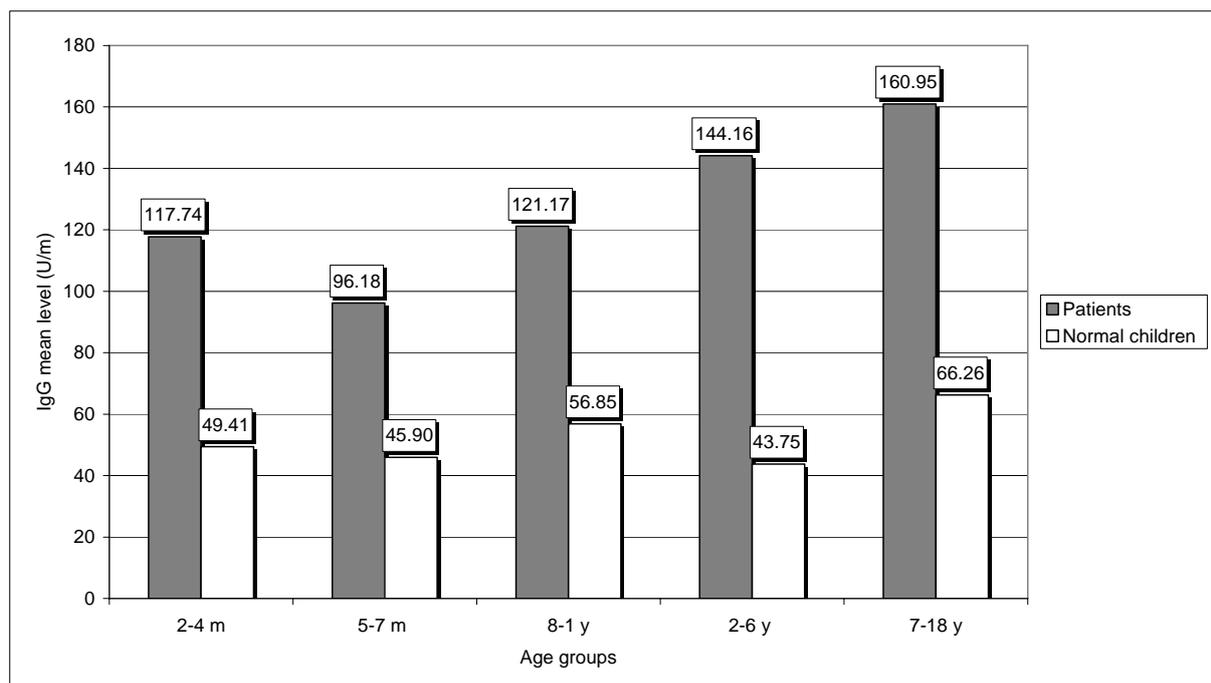
### **4-8 Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG response in vaccinated patients and normal population:**

The specific IgG antibodies against *Bordetella pertussis* surface antigens (pertussis toxin, filamentous haemagglutinin and lipopolysaccharids) were measured by ELISA technique in 32 vaccinated patients and the results were compared with 35 vaccinated normal children in the same age groups. Figure (17) shows the means of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG levels in vaccinated patients and normal children. The mean anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG level in vaccinated patients was (128.04) U/ml compared with (52.43) U/ml in normal children. The levels of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG were significantly higher ( $p < 0.05$ ) in vaccinated patients than in vaccinated normal children in all age groups.

Table (13) shows the diagnostic sensitivity and specificity and the statistical analysis of differences between the patients and normal children. The highest sensitivity (100%) was in age group (7-18 years), and the lowest sensitivity (50%) was noticed in age group (2-4 months). The specificity of 100% was noticed in age groups; (5-7 months) and (2-6 years). The specificity of 86% were noticed in age groups (2-4 months), (8 months - 1 year) and (7-18 years). The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG ELISA shows 67 % sensitivity and 91 % specificity in vaccinated children.

**Table (13): P value and sensitivity & specificity of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG in the vaccinated patients and normal children:**

Age groups	Means IgG levels U/ml		P value	No. of positive cases / total	Sensitivity	Specificity
	Patients	Normal				
2-4 m	117.74	49.41	0.04	3/6	50 %	86 %
5-7 m	96.18	45.90	0.02	2/3	67 %	100 %
8-1 y	121.17	56.85	0.03	4/7	71 %	86 %
2-6 y	144.16	43.75	0.0005	12/15	80 %	100 %
7-18 y	160.95	66.26	0.02	1/1	100 %	86 %
Total				22/32	67%	91%



**Figure (17): Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG mean levels in vaccinated patients and normal children.**

#### **4-9 Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA response in unvaccinated patients and normal population:**

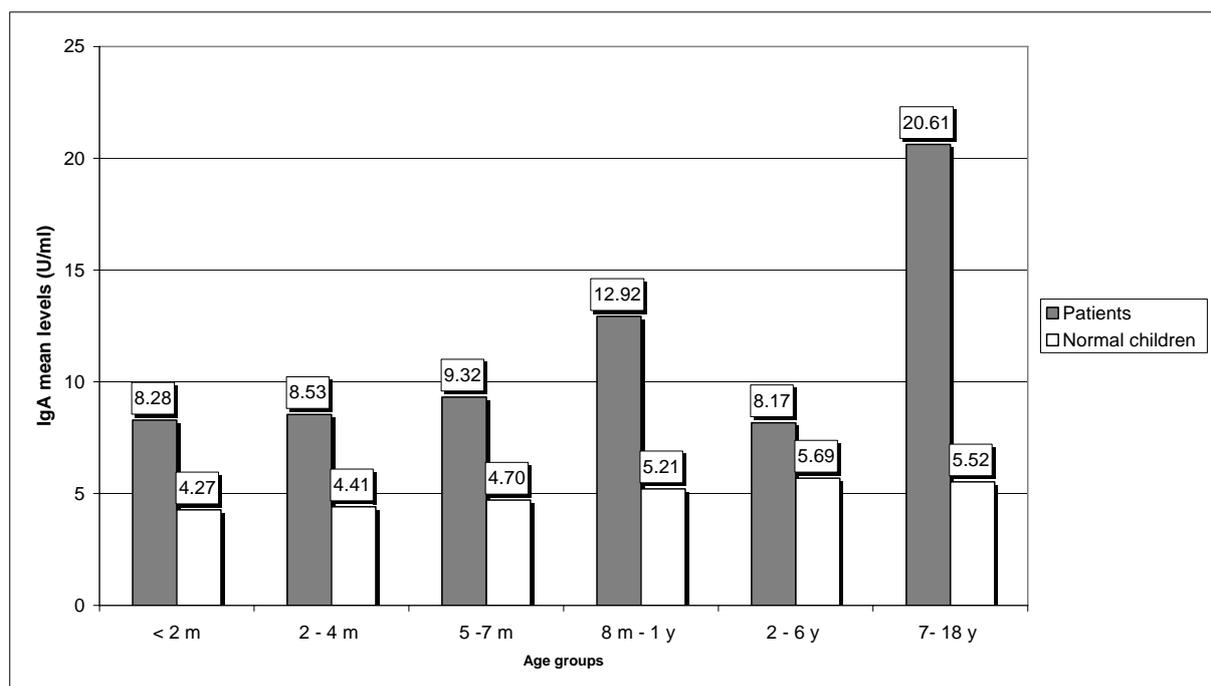
The specific IgA antibodies against *Bordetella pertussis* surface antigens (pertussis toxin, filamentous haemagglutinin and lipopolysaccharids) were measured by ELISA technique in 36 unvaccinated patients and the results were compared with 49 unvaccinated normal children in similar age groups. Figure (18) shows the means of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA levels in unvaccinated patients and normal children. The mean of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA level in unvaccinated patients was (11.30) U/ml compared with (4.96) U/ml in normal children.

Table (14) shows the diagnostic sensitivity and specificity and the statistical analysis of differences between the patients and normal children. The levels of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA were significantly higher ( $p \leq 0.05$ ) in unvaccinated patients than in unvaccinated normal children in age groups; (<2 months), (8 months – 1 year) and (7-18 years). There are no significant differences ( $p > 0.05$ ) in age groups; (>2-4 months), (5-7 months) and (2-6 years).

The highest diagnostic sensitivity was noticed in age group (7-18 years), and the lowest sensitivity was 12 % noticed in age group (2-4 months). The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA ELISA shows 33 % sensitivity and 100 % specificity in unvaccinated children.

**Table (14): P value and sensitivity & specificity of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA in unvaccinated patients and normal children.**

Age groups	Means IgA levels U/ml		P value	No. of positive cases/ total	Sensitivity	Specificity
	Patients	Normal				
< 2 months	8.28	4.27	0.004	1/5	20 %	100 %
2-4 months	8.53	4.41	0.06	1/8	12 %	100 %
5-7 months	9.32	4.70	0.07	¼	25 %	100 %
8 m-1 year	12.92	5.21	0.01	3/5	60 %	100 %
2-6 year	8.17	5.69	0.1	4/12	33 %	100 %
7-18 year	20.61	5.52	$9.93 \times 10^{-5}$	2/2	100 %	100 %
Total				12/36	33%	100%



**Figure (18): Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA mean levels in unvaccinated patients and normal children.**

#### **4-10 Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA response in vaccinated patients and normal population:**

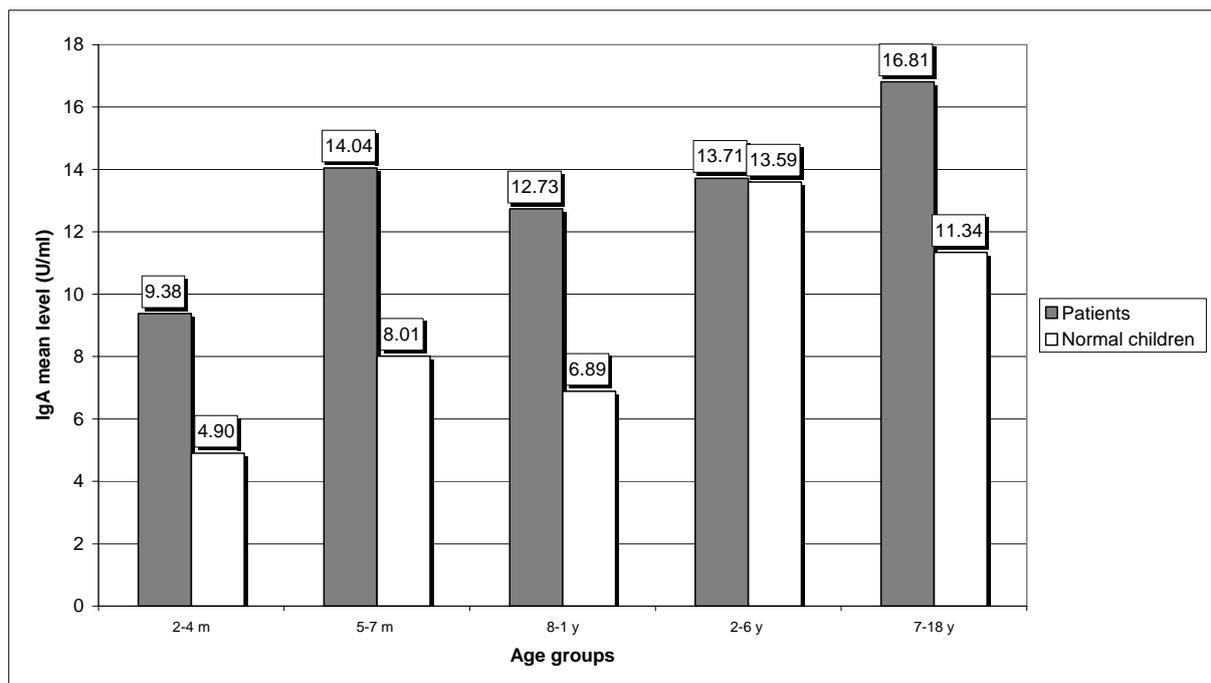
The specific IgA antibodies against *Bordetella pertussis* surface antigens (pertussis toxin, filamentous haemagglutinin and lipopolysaccharids) were measured by ELISA technique in 32 vaccinated patients and the results were compared with 35 vaccinated normal children in same age groups. Figure (19) shows the means of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA levels in vaccinated patients and normal children. The mean anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA level in vaccinated patients was (13.33) U/ml compared with (8.94) U/ml in normal children.

Table (15) shows the diagnostic sensitivity and specificity and the statistical analysis of differences between the patients and normal children. The levels of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA were significantly higher ( $p \leq 0.05$ ) in vaccinated patients than in vaccinated normal children age groups; (2-4 months), (5-7 months) and (8 months – 1 year). There were no significant differences in age groups (2-6 years) and (7-18 years).

The highest sensitivity (100%) was in age group (7-18 years), and the lowest sensitivity (33%) was noticed in age group (2-4 months). The sensitivity was increased with the increase in age group. The highest specificity was noticed in age groups (2-4 months). The lowest specificity was noticed in age group (7-18 years). The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA ELISA shows 72 % sensitivity and 86 % specificity in vaccinated children.

**Table (15): P value and sensitivity & specificity of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA in vaccinated patients and normal children.**

Age groups	Means IgA levels U/ml		P value	No. of positive cases/ total	Sensitivity	Specificity
	Patients	Normal				
2-4 m	9.38	4.90	0.01	2/6	33 %	100 %
5-7 m	14.04	8.01	0.05	2/3	67 %	86 %
8-1 y	12.73	6.89	0.01	6/7	86 %	86 %
2-6 y	13.71	13.59	0.48	12/15	87 %	71 %
7-18 y	16.81	11.34	0.27	1/1	100 %	57 %
Total				23/32	72%	86%



**Figure (19): Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA mean levels in vaccinated patients and normal children.**

## **4-11 The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and IgA response in relation to pertussis duration**

The 68 pertussis cases were classified to 4 categories (<7, 7-14, 15-21 and >21 days) according to the timing of sample collection after the onset of pertussis symptoms (paroxysmal cough, respiratory whoop... Etc).

Figure (20) shows the sensitivities of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and IgA according to timing of sample collection after the onset of disease symptoms. The samples were collected and tested after 1,2,3 weeks or more; they had a significantly higher ( $p<0.05$ ) anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and IgA level as compared with the samples collected after less than 1 week. The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG ELISA showed a sensitivity of 40% in samples collected after less than 7 days after the onset of disease symptoms. Higher sensitivities were observed in 7-14 day (69%) and 15-21 days (71%) after the onset of symptoms. The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA ELISA shows a 20%, 46%, 50% and 57% for the samples collected after less than 7, 7-14, 15, 21 and more than 21days after the onset of symptoms. The lowest sensitivity was observed in samples collected after less than 7 days after the onset of disease symptoms.

The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA shows a lower sensitivity as compared with *Bordetella pertussis* IgG in all the four categories (Table -16 and Table -17). A higher sensitivity was obtained by using anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG or IgA as compared with the using of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and IgA as a single test (Table -18).

**Table (16): The diagnostic sensitivity of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG according to the timing of sample collection.**

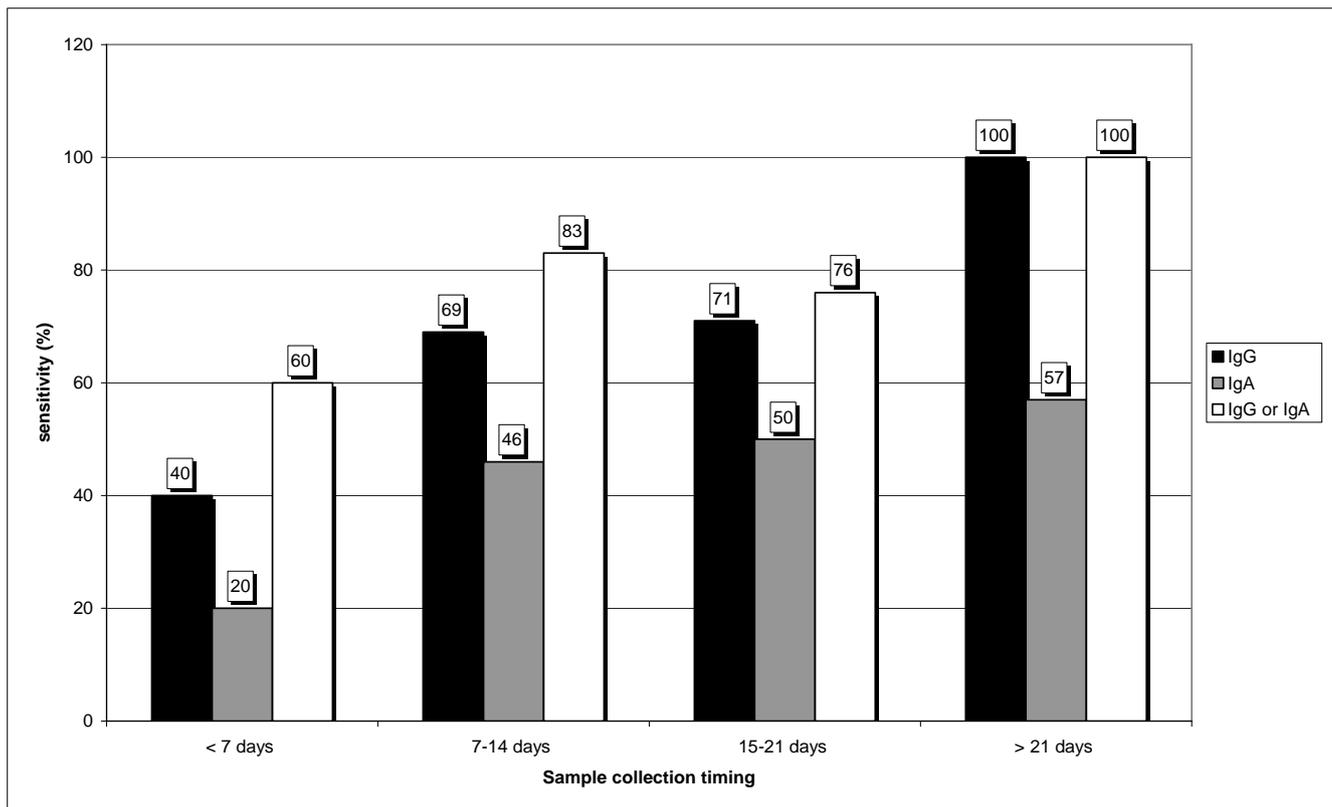
Timing of sample collection	No. of positive cases/ total No. of cases	Diagnostic sensitivity
< 7 days	2/5	40 %
7 – 14 days	24/35	69 %
15 – 21 days	10/14	71 %
> 21 days	14/14	100 %

**Table (17): The diagnostic sensitivity of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA according to the timing of sample collection.**

Timing of sample collection	No. of positive cases / total No. of cases	Diagnostic sensitivity
< 7 days	1/5	20%
7 – 14 days	16/ 35	46%
15 – 21 days	7/14	50%
> 21 days	8/14	57%

**Table (18): The diagnostic sensitivity of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG or IgA according to the timing of sample collection.**

Timing of sample collection	No. of positive cases/ total No. of cases	Diagnostic sensitivity
< 7 days	3/5	60%
7 – 14 days	29/35	83%
15 – 21 days	11/14	76%
> 21 days	14/14	100%



**Figure (20): Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and IgA sensitivities according to timing of sample collection.**

#### **4-12 The diagnostic sensitivity and Specificity of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and IgA measured by ELISA technique in laboratory diagnosis of pertussis:**

Table (19) shows the diagnostic sensitivity and Specificity of the anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and IgA. The sensitivity and specificity of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG were (74%) and (96%) respectively. The sensitivity and specificity of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA were (50%) and (94%) respectively. The sensitivity and specificity of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and IgA were (41%) and (99%) respectively. The best sensitivity and specificity were the anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG or IgA: (82%) and (92%) respectively.

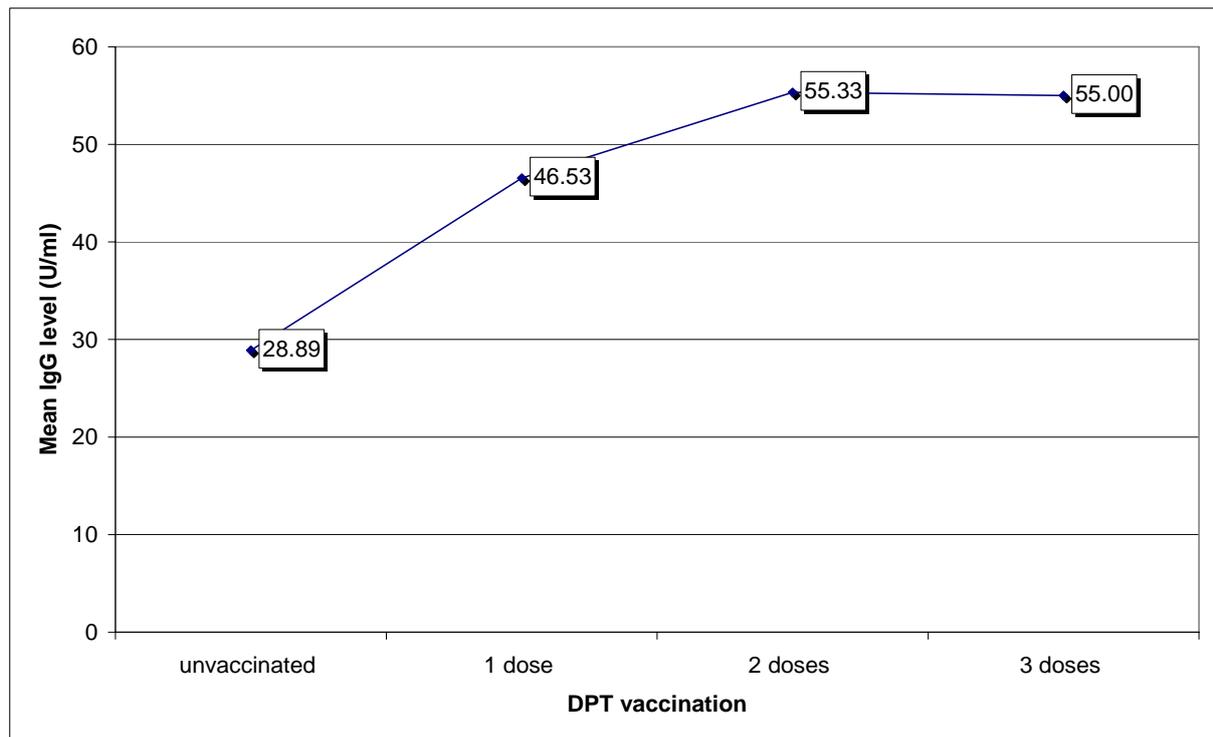
**Table (19): The diagnostic sensitivity and Specificity of the anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and IgA**

The test	No. of True positive	No. of false negative	No. of false positive	No. of true negative	Diagnostic sensitivity	Diagnostic specificity
IgG	50	18	3	81	74 %	96 %
IgA	34	34	5	79	50 %	94 %
IgG and IgA	28	40	1	83	41 %	99 %
IgG or IgA	56	2	7	77	82 %	92 %

#### **4-13 Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG response in DTP vaccinated normal population**

A total of 103 serum samples were collected from normal population, and anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG levels were determined by ELISA technique. 49 samples obtained from DTP vaccinated people were tested and compared with 54 samples obtained from unvaccinated people.

Figure (21) shows the mean levels of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG according to DTP doses. The mean of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG level in unvaccinated normal people was (28.89) U/ml. The mean level of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG in vaccinated people with 1,2 and 3 doses of DTP vaccine was (46.53), (55.33) and (55) U/ml respectively. The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG levels in people vaccinated with 1, 2 and 3 doses of DTP vaccine were significantly higher ( $p < 0.05$ ) than anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG levels in unvaccinated people.



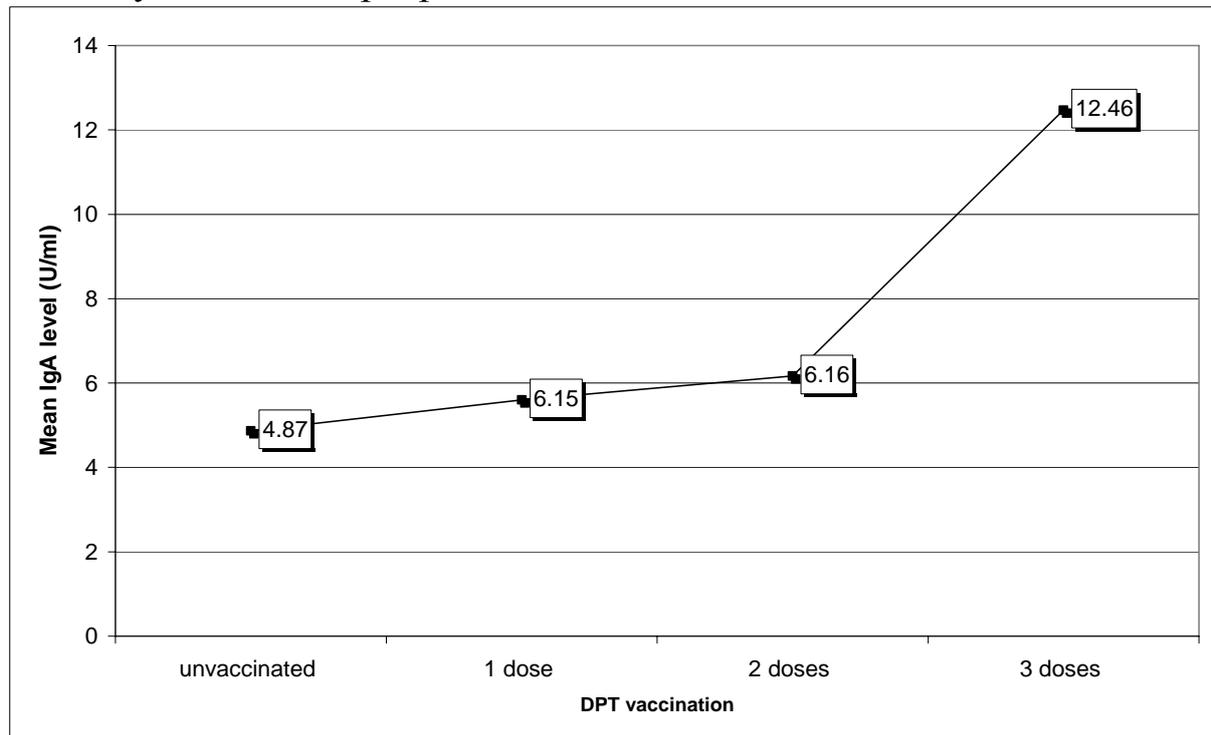
**Figure (21): Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG mean levels according to DTP vaccine doses.**

#### **4-14 Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA response in DTP vaccinated normal population**

A total of 103 serum sample collected from normal population, and anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA levels was determinate by ELISA technique. 49 samples obtained from DTP vaccinated people were tested and compared with 54 samples obtain from unvaccinated people.

Figure (22) shows the mean levels of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA according to DTP doses. The mean of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA levels in unvaccinated normal people was (4.87) U/ml. The mean levels of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA in vaccinated people with 1,2 and 3 doses of DTP vaccine were (6.15), (6.16) and (12.56) U/ml respectively. The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA levels in vaccinated children with 1 and 2 doses of DTP vaccine show no significant increase as compared with

unvaccinated children. A significant increase of *Bordetella pertussis* IgA was only observed in people who received 3 doses of DTP.



**Figure (22): Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA mean levels according to DTP vaccine doses.**

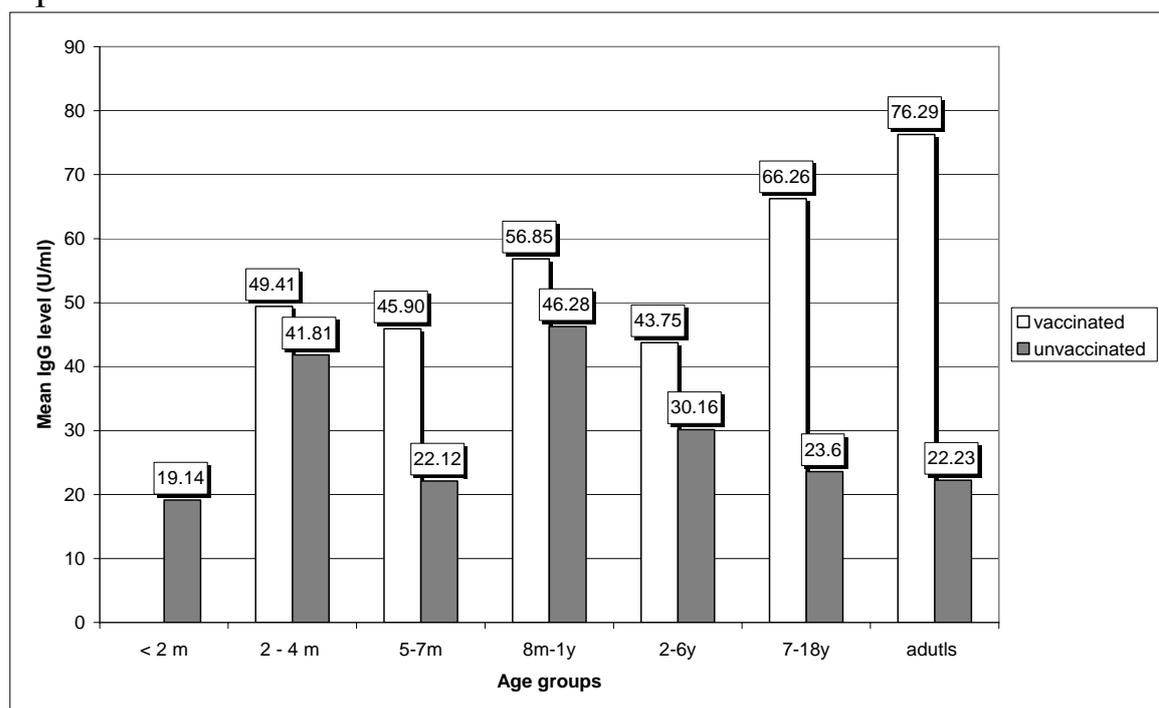
#### **4-15 Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG response in DTP vaccination & unvaccinated and normal population according to age groups**

According to age groups, the results of 103 tested serum samples obtained from normal population were arranged in 7 age groups and their mean anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG levels were compared. There are 49 samples from vaccinated population compared with 54 samples from DTP unvaccinated people.

In vaccinated people, the mean of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG levels was 56.41 U/ml (range 19.77-143.89 U/ml). The highest mean level was in vaccinated adults (76.29 U/ml), while the lowest mean level was observed in age group (2-6) years (43.75 U/ml). Fig (23)

In unvaccinated people, the mean of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG levels was 29.33 U/ml (range 1.01-56.9 U/ml). The highest mean level was in age group 8m – 1y (46.28 U/ml), while the lowest mean level was observed in age group < 2 months (19.14 U/ml). Fig (23)

The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG levels of DTP vaccinated people were significantly higher ( $p \leq 0.05$ ) than anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG levels of unvaccinated people in age groups (5-7 m) , (2-6 years), (7-18 years) and adults. There is no significant difference between DTP vaccinated and unvaccinated people in age groups (2-4 months) and (8 month – 1 year). The data show that, there is a positive IgG level ( $> 100$  U/ml) in 6 cases in vaccinated people, 3 of them are among the adult age group.



**Figure (23): Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG response to DTP vaccine according to age groups in vaccinated and unvaccinated population.**

#### **4-16 Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA response in DTP vaccination & unvaccinated normal population according to age groups**

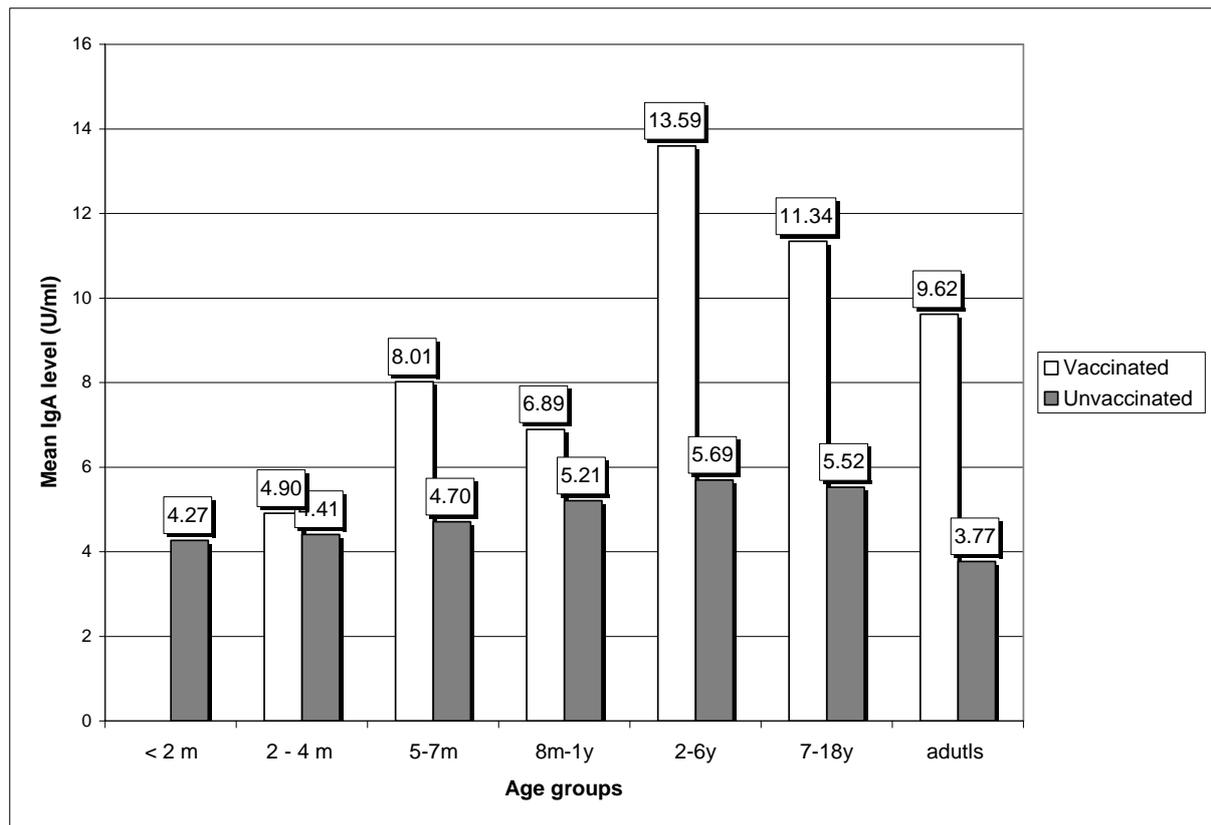
According to age groups, the results of 103 tested serum samples obtained from normal population were arranged in 7 age groups and their mean anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA levels compared. There are 49 samples from vaccinated population compared with 54 samples from DTP unvaccinated people.

In vaccinated people, the mean of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA levels was 9.05 U/ml (range 3.6-29.74 U/ml). The highest mean level was in 2-6 years (13.59 U/ml), while the lowest mean level was observed in age group 2-4 months (4.90 U/ml). Fig (24)

In unvaccinated people, the mean of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA levels was 4.79 U/ml (range 3.05-7 U/ml). The highest mean level was in age group 2-6 year (5.69 U/ml), while the lowest mean level was observed in adult's age group (3.77 U/ml). Fig (24)

The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA levels of DTP vaccinated people were significantly higher ( $p \leq 0.05$ ) than anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG levels of unvaccinated people in all age groups except for the age group (8 months-1year) where there is no significant difference.

Our data show that, there is a positive IgA level ( $> 100$  U/ml) in 7 (7%) cases in vaccinated people, 2 of them are among the adult age group.



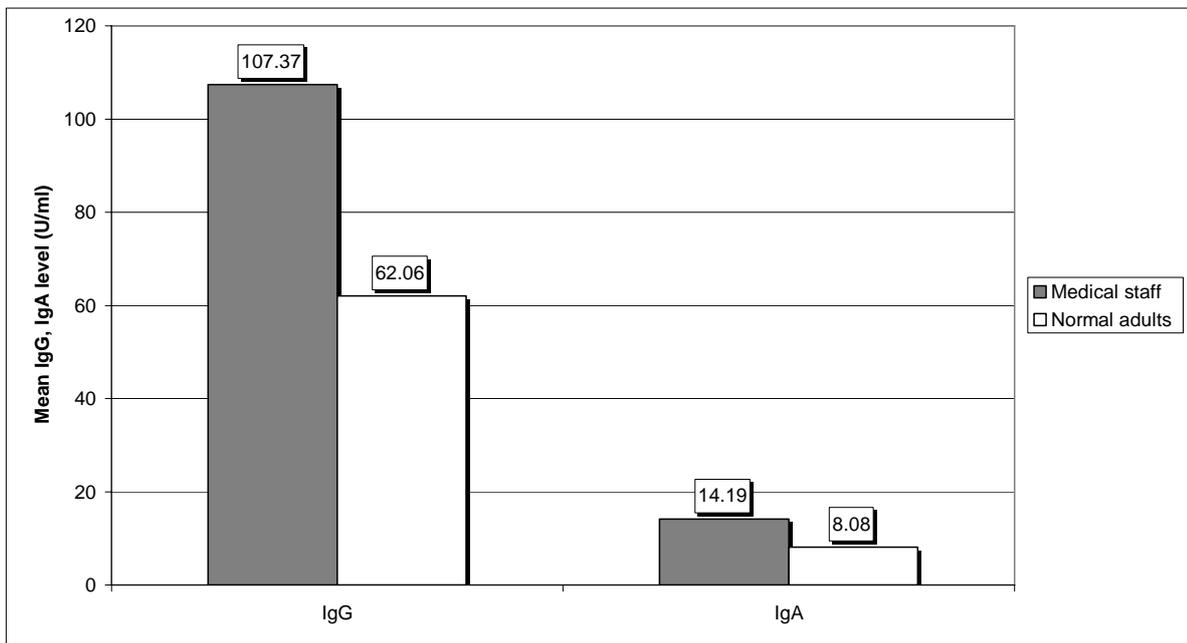
**Figure (24): Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA response to DTP vaccine according to age groups in vaccinated and unvaccinated population.**

#### **4-17 Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG, IgA levels in medical staff:**

A total of 20 serum samples from medical staff in Babylon Maternity and Children Hospital in Hilla were tested for anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and IgA levels and compared with 19 tested samples from normal adults as a control.

The mean of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG, IgA levels in medical staff was significantly higher ( $p \leq 0.05$ ) than the control group. The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG mean levels in medical staff was (107.37) U/ml compared with (62.06) U/ml in control group. The anti *Bordetella*

*pertussis* IgA mean level in medical staff was (14.19) U/ml compared with (8.08) U/ml in control group. Figure (25).



**Figure (25): Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG, IgA levels in medical staff**

Table (20) shows the Number of positive results of medical staff compared with control group. There is 14 (70%) of the medical staff showing a positive level of IgG or IgA compared with 4 (21%) for control group.

**Table (20): The No. of positive results noticed in medical staff.**

Diagnostic test	No. of positive cases	
	Medical staff	Control
<b>IgG positive level</b>	<b>9 (45%)</b>	<b>3 (16 %)</b>
<b>IgA positive level</b>	<b>9 (45%)</b>	<b>2 (11%)</b>
<b>IgG and IgA positive level</b>	<b>4 (20%)</b>	<b>1 (5%)</b>
<b>IgG or IgA positive level</b>	<b>14 (70%)</b>	<b>4 (21%)</b>

## **Discussion**

### **5-1 Age distribution of the pertussis patients**

The age distribution of the pertussis cases presented in this study shows that, the higher incidence of pertussis occur in infants under 1 year old, (Fig-10). They represent 49% of all cases of this study. Our data show that the rate of pertussis is reduced with the increase of age groups. These results explain that most of the patients in these age groups are either unvaccinated which represent 58% of the patients in this age group (table-8), or partially vaccinated with DTP vaccine. Some of the patients are under 2 months before the first scheduled dose of DTP vaccine.

The incidence of pertussis has dramatically changed after presentation of DTP vaccine. In the prevaccine era, pertussis primarily affected children between 1 to 5 years of age, at least in part because of passive protection during first year of life through maternal antibody. For example, in a study from 1937, 60.2% of pertussis patients were 1 to 5 years of age (Luttiger. 1977). In that setting with most adult having had pertussis as children and being repeatedly exposed in the population, there was high level of adult immunity. Whole cell vaccine, pertussis vaccine has clearly been the major cause of overall reduction in the incidence of disease, yet it has probably also affected a shift in the United States occur in children younger than 1 year of age (Anonymous, 1984). In 1980-1989, the children under 1 year old had the highest annual incidence of disease (62.8 per 100000) (Farizo. 1992). The incidence of reported cases of pertussis among infants increased 49% in the

1990s compared with the incidence in the 1980s. Increase in the incidence of cases and the number of the deaths among infants during the 1990s primarily was among those aged 4 months or younger, contrasted with a stable incidence of cases among infants aged 5 months or older (Tanaka. *et al.* 2003).

There are many studies which agree with our findings. In Al-Marzoki JM *et al* (2004) study, more than 95% of patients were below 6 years, and more than 60% were below one year. In pertussis outbreak in Basra – Iraq, 39.8% were children under 5 years of age, between them 18.9% infants under 2 months of age who were not immunized and only 19.4% children aged more than 1 year who had no pertussis immunization (Al-Bargish. 1999).

In Australia a study of 140 pertussis patients, 97 (69%) of infants who had not been vaccinated for pertussis, 63 (65%) were less than 2 months (Elliott, *et al.* 2004).

In Taiwan, a study of 46 pertussis cases shows that 52.2% were patients younger than 1 year of age. The mean age was 4.3 years (range, 24 day to 37years) and the median age was 10.5 months (Lin. 2004).

The proportion of susceptible children to pertussis is affected by vaccine coverage. In poor vaccination coverage (< 70%) in 1999 there is about 30 % of cases is under 1 year, and for countries with good coverage (> or = 70%) there is 10% of patients is under 1 years old (Crowcroft. 2003). The DTP coverage in Iraq was expanded from 13% in 1980 to 90% in 1999 and it declined after 2000 to reach 67% in 2002 (WHO. 2003).

## **5-2 Sex distribution of the pertussis patients**

The sex distribution of the pertussis patients in this study shows slightly higher incidence of pertussis in males (56%) compared with females (44%), (Fig -11).

This result agrees with some studies. In Lin PY, *et al* study, there is higher rate of pertussis in males (54.3%) (Lin, *et al.* 2004). In pertussis epidemic in Cincinnati, USA, the incidence of pertussis is slightly higher in males (53%) (Bisgard, *et al.* 2001). In England and Wales, between 1975 and 1979, the percentage of female among notified cases of pertussis was 49%, 52% to 53% and 64% for children < 1 year, 1 to 14 years and  $\geq$  15 years of age, respectively (Gordon and Hood. 1980).

Some studies indicate that there is no effect of gender on pertussis incidence. Ulrich *et al* found an even distribution of pertussis between both genders in children (male : female 49.3% :50.7%) (Ulrich, *et al.* 1997). Data from the Center of Disease Control revealed that up to the age of 15 years, a similar number of boys and girls (50% to 51%) developed pertussis, where as a female predponderance (55% to 69%) was noted in older groups (CDC. 2002). A study of Finger H. and Wirsing von Konig CH., shows that there is no sex differences found in children suffering from pertussis. In adult patients, however, women were more often affected (Finger. and Wirsing von Konig. 1992).

Other studies were disagreeing with our findings. In Basra – Iraq the outbreak of pertussis the male/female ratio was 2:8 (Al-Bargish. 1999). In Al-Marzoki JM *et al*, the females outnumbered males (60%) (Al-Marzoki *et al.*2004). In Poland, more cases occurred among females (7/100000) than

males (5.4/100000) (Sitarska-Golebiowska. and Zielinski. 2003). In Yih. *et al*, the incidence of pertussis was slightly higher for females than males – 8.8 and 8.1 per 100000 populations, respectively. Incidences (cases per 100000 populations) for females and males, respectively, were 56.1 and 55.2 for infants; 5.7 and 5 for children 1-10 years of age; 49 and 44.2 for adolescents 11-19 years of age and 2.9 and 2 for adults  $\geq 20$  years. The ratio of females incidence to male incidence was greater in adults (1.45) than in the younger age groups (1.01-1.14) (Yih. *et al* . 2000). Syedabubakar *et al* , indicate that there is statically a significant finding including a higher proportion of isolations from females patients (Syedabubakar. *et al*.1995).

### **5-3 Residential distribution**

The residential distribution of the pertussis patients are shown in Fig (12). Our data show a high incidence of pertussis in rural areas as compared with urban areas in Babylon. Of the 68 patients presented in this study, 48 (71%) were rural area residents compared with 20 (29%) of patients in urban area. These findings may be explained by low vaccination coverage in the rural area of Babylon. To examine this explanation, we analyze the vaccination status of the urban and rural area resident patients in this study (Table-9). Our data show that, of 48 rural area resident patients, there are 34 (17%) (47 % to the total No. of patients) unvaccinated patients. Only 14 (29%) (19% of the total No of patients) was vaccinated patients. These data suggest low vaccination coverage in the rural area in Babylon, and that explains the high incidence of pertussis in rural area residents.

There are many studies that agree with our finding. In Iraq, the rural: urban ratio was 1.37:1 (Al-Marzoki *et al*. 2004). In Abdalla BA *et al* (1998) in

Sudan, there is 50% of the pertussis patients from periurban area and the majority (83.3%) were living in crowded houses and the primary vaccination was low (2.8%).

In India, Dhadwal. *et al* (1997) show that the immunization coverage of DTP vaccine was 1% in the rural area and 8% in urban area and there is an association between high incidences of pertussis in rural areas.

In Chile, Sanchez. *et al* (1992) show that high lethality of pertussis cases are recorded in rural areas.

In serological survey in Mexico, the children living in rural areas and those classified as belonging to lower socioeconomic level showed lowest seropositivity prevalence (Sapian-Lopez. *et al.* 1992).

In Poland, Zielinski's study disagrees with our results and shows that the incidence of pertussis in urban areas was (507/100000) compared with (3/100000) in rural areas, but he justifies that by insufficient sensitivity of surveillance in rural areas of Poland (Zielinski. 2004).

#### **5-4 Vaccination status of patients**

The vaccination status of the pertussis patients presented in this study was shown in Fig (13). Our findings indicate that the higher rate of pertussis was among unvaccinated and partially vaccinated patients with only one dose of DTP vaccine. That high rate of pertussis in unvaccinated children is due to several reasons. First, the low vaccination coverage in rural area in Babylon. The rural area resident patients represent 94% (47% of the total patients) of the unvaccinated patients in this study (Table-10). Second, some of the patients are under the age that the first scheduled dose of DTP vaccine received.

There are many studies which reported the high incidence of pertussis in unvaccinated or under vaccination populations. In Al-Marzuki *et al* (2004) study, there was one third of the patients who were not vaccinated, and 16.6% of them were partially vaccinated. In Lin. *et al* (2004), 50 % of the pertussis patients were unvaccinated or partially vaccinated children. In Liese *et al* (2003), of the 180 pertussis cases, there were 69% fully vaccinated, 7% partially vaccinated and 24% were not vaccinated against pertussis. Juretzko. *et al* (2002) show that 2.3% of the pertussis patients were vaccinated and 76.8% were not vaccinated. Fruhwirth. *et al.* (2002) indicate in there study that out of the patients with *Bordetella pertussis* infection, 62% were not vaccinated and 11.2 were too young to have received the first recommended dose of pertussis vaccine.

Our findings show that, there were 9 % of pertussis cases which occurred in vaccinated patients. Pertussis occurred among children, who had been appropriately immunized (Saleh. 2000). These results may be explained by following:

- 1) Lessened potency of the pertussis vaccine (Christie. *et al.*1994).
- 2) Waning of vaccine-induced immunity (cherry. 2003).
- 3) A mismatch between the vaccine and the circulating strains of *Bordetella pertussis* (Mooi. *et al.*1998; De Melker. *et al.*1997; vanderZee. *et al.*1996; Mooi. *et al.*1995).

Our results show that, all the patients presented in this study did not received 4 or 5 or 6 booster doses of DTP vaccine given in 1, 2 year of age and preschool age. Several studies suggest that the major cause of the resurgence of pertussis was waning immunity after vaccination due to lack of

regular natural or vaccine boosters (Baron. *et al.* 1998 ; Grimprel. *et al.* 1993). Another study suggests that the booster doses of pertussis vaccine may prevent cough illness related to pertussis among adolescents and adults (Ward. 2002 ; Ward. 2001).

### **5-5 The seasonal distribution of pertussis patients**

The distribution of pertussis cases during the study period is shown in Fig (14). These results show a high incidence of pertussis cases between March and July, and the peak rate was in May. These findings agree with the study of Al-Marzoki JM *at al* study that includes hospitalized pertussis patients over a period of 5 years (Al-Marzoki *et al.*2004).These findings indicate that the high incidence of pertussis was during spring and autumn.

The seasonal distribution of pertussis varies between other studies. In de Melker *et al.* study there is an increasing of cases in March and April 1996 (de Melker. *et al.* 2000). Bisgard. *et al.* (2001) show that the peak incidence of pertussis cases was during the period between July to September. Yih. *et al.* (2000) indicate that the peak incidence in 7 years was in the fourth quarter of the year. In Taiwan Lin. *et al.* show that the pertussis cases were reported throughout the year, and the peak incidence was in summer and autumn (Lin. *et al.* 2004). Most of these studies studied the influence of seasonal variation on pertussis incidence in countries which have a different climate from that of Iraq. In Iraq, Al-Bargish (1999) reported that the higher number of pertussis cases was noticed in the first months of the year particularly in July, and that is agrees with our findings.

### **5-6 Complications of pertussis patients**

The principal complications of pertussis are secondary infections, such as otitis media and pneumonia, and physical sequelae of paroxysmal cough (Plotkin and Orenstein. 1999). Our findings show that the pertussis complications are common among pertussis patients. Complications are noticed in (60/68) 88% of the patients. Apnea was the most common pertussis complications; it is noticed in 88% of the patients, Pneumonia was noticed in 29% of the patients, while seizure is presented in 26% of the patients. Death was noticed in 4% of the cases. In Al-Marzuki *et al* (2004) study the complications were notified in 52.29% of the patients, the most common was pneumonia followed by diarrhea, convulsion, and hemorrhages; the death percentage was 1.06%.

Pertussis complications were directly related to age, the disease being most severe in children under 1 year, especially those under 6 months (Miller and Fletcher. 1976; Mandell *et al.*2000; Benneson. 1995). In our results, incidence of pertussis complications was affected by age (Fig-14). The higher incidence of complications was noticed in age group < 1 years. Halperin *et al* (1999) in a study of 1082 pertussis cases show that pneumonia was reported in 9.4%, seizures in 2.3% and death in 0.9, all children < or = 6 months pf age. In a study by Nielsen and Larsen (1991), pneumonia developed in 12%, seizures in 2% under one year and 5 % over year, apnea occurred in 10% under one year and 2% over one year.

Rates of complications were generally higher among unvaccinated children than among who had received three or more doses of DPT vaccine (Farizo *et al.* 1992). In our findings the DTP vaccination has an important

influence on complications incidence in pertussis patients (fig-15). There was increasing evidence that previously vaccination reduces the complication of the disease but the vaccination program does not cover very young children (Miller and Fletcher. 1976). Pertussis deaths increased among infants too young to be fully protected by immunization (Vitek *et al.* 2003).

### **5-7 Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG response in pertussis patients**

The IgG specific response to *Bordetella pertussis* surface antigens (pertussis toxin, filamentous hemagglutinin and lipopolysaccharids) were determined by the ELISA technique from 68 patients. The results were compared with 84 healthy children from different age groups.

Our findings show a significantly higher anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG in patients than in normal subjects. The mean of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG was 149.75, 30.52 U/ml in unvaccinated patients and normal children, respectively. The mean of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG was 130.21, 52.44 U/ml in vaccinated patients and normal children, respectively.

The mean of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG level was significantly higher ( $p \leq 0.05$ ) in unvaccinated patients than vaccinated. This finding may be explained by the fact that vaccinated children have an earlier, lower, and briefer IgG response when the disease occurs. If the response to exposure *Bordetella pertussis* among unvaccinated children is considered a primary immune response and the response among vaccinated children is considered a secondary immune response, the lower briefer IgG response observed among vaccinated children is atypical (Simondon *et al.* 1998). Comparable observations were reported for tetanus and leishmaniasis (Ipsen. 1961). This

response may be related to an increase in the avidity of the antitoxin produced during maturation of the immune response. It may also reflect less-severe disease among vaccinated children, rather than temporary immunodeficiency associated with vaccine failure (Simondn *et al.* 1998).

Of the 36 unvaccinated patients, there were 28 patients who give a positive IgG levels ( $\geq 100$  U/ml), and that gives sensitivity of 77%, while none of the normal children has a positive IgG level (100% specificity). In unvaccinated patients, the assay of PT-IgG and FHA-IgG in the serum samples is highly sensitive for the diagnosis of pertussis (Trollfors *et al.* 1999). The IgG1 and IgG3 were mainly produced in unvaccinated pertussis patients (Giammance *et al.* 2003).

Of the 32 vaccinated patients, there were 22 patients having a positive anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and that is gives a sensitivity of 67%. This sensitivity was lower than the sensitivity observed in unvaccinated patients. The IgG response to pertussis toxin was more sensitive in unvaccinated patients than those immunized with DTP vaccine.

In Granstorm G *et al.*, (1988) all but one of the unvaccinated children with disease duration of less than 3 weeks at the time of first sample showed titer raises, while in vaccinated patients, rapid booster response after 1 or 2 weeks of disease were noted. These results imply that diagnosis by IgG response may be difficult to obtain in a population vaccinated with DTP. In Trollfors B *et al.* (1999), the ELISA assay of PT-IgG and FHA-IgG in paired serum sample is highly sensitive for diagnosis pertussis in unvaccinated individuals, while this assay was less sensitive in vaccinated children.

Our finding shows that, the specificity of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG was lower than 100% in vaccinated children in some age groups (Table-13). These results may be explained by temporary elevation of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG as a response to vaccination, or indicate asymptomatic infection of *Bordetella pertussis*. Elevated levels of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG occurred in individuals with asymptomatic or a mild cough illness and IgG level likely reflected gradual declining in the months following *Bordetella pertussis* infection (Heininger *et al.* 2004 ; Tennis *et al.* 2002).

Our findings show a little influence of age on the sensitivity of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG. These findings agree with Granstorm G *et al* study that shows 100% sensitivity of anti FHA-IgG and PT-IgG in all age groups (Granstorm G *et al.* 1988). The low sensitivities noticed in some age groups (Table-11 & Table-12), may be due to other respiratory tract infection that cause “pertussis like” symptoms (Wirsing van Konig *et al.* 1998) or rapid decline of previously high IgG level, or absence of IgG response after *Bordetella pertussis* infection (de Melker *et al.* 1999). Other explanations of these results were the short interval between the onset of symptoms and sample collection. The median time for increasing anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG was 9 days after the onset of symptoms (Simondin *et al.* 1998).

### **5-8 Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA response in pertussis patients**

The IgA specific response to *Bordetella pertussis* surface antigens (pertussis toxin, filamentous haemagglutinin and lipopolysaccharids) were determined by the ELISA technique in 68 patients from different age groups

and vaccination status. The results were compared with 84 healthy children from different age groups. (Table 14 & 15)

The results show that the levels of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA were significantly higher ( $p \leq 0.05$ ) in patients than normal children. The mean level of anti *Bordetella pertussis* was 11.3 and 4.96 U/ml in unvaccinated patients and normal children, respectively. While the mean level of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA was 13.33 and 8.94 U/ml in vaccinated patients and normal children, respectively.

A high titer of immunoglobulin A (IgA) antibodies are detected in nasal secretions of pertussis patients (Long *et al.* 1990; Thomas *et al.* 1990), in saliva (Zackrisson *et al.* 1990) and in serum (Granstorm *et al.* 1988). There are several studies have reported the use of the IgA ELISA to certain *Bordetella pertussis* antigens for the diagnosis of whooping cough (Nagel and Poot-Scholten. 1983; Granstorm M *et al.* 1982; Granstorm M *et al.* 1982;).

Our findings show that, the anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA shows a diagnostic sensitivity of 33% and 72% in unvaccinated and vaccinated patients, respectively. These results agree with Granstorm G *et al* who documented a lower IgA response in unvaccinated patients. The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA for both pertussis toxin and filamentous hemagglutinin was significantly higher in vaccinated patients than in unvaccinated patients (Granstorm G *et al.* 1988).

Our findings show that there is a higher sensitivity of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA in children of more than 1 year than infants of less than 1 year in both vaccinated and unvaccinated patients (Table-13 & Table-14). These

findings agree with the studies of Granstorm G *et al.* 1982 and Granstorm G *et al.* 1988.

Our results show a specificity of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA of 100% and 86% in unvaccinated and vaccinated children, respectively. The low specificity in vaccinated children may be due to asymptomatic pertussis infection rather than a response due to vaccination.

### **5-9 Anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and IgA response in relation to disease duration**

The sensitivities of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and IgA according to the timing of sample collection are shown in Fig (21). The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG ELISA shows a sensitivity of 40% in samples collected after less than 7 days after the onset of disease symptoms. Higher sensitivities were observed in 7-14 days (69%) and 15-21 days (71%) after the onset of symptoms. The highest sensitivity was observed in samples collected after > 21 days (100%). Granstorm G *et al* show a sensitivity of 85%, 88%, 63 and 80% for samples collected after 1-7, 8-14, 15-21 and more than 21 days after the onset of symptoms, respectively (Granstorm G *et al.* 1988). Wong and Skelton indicate that the lowest IgG titer for pertussis toxin was collected from patients 1 week after the onset of clinical symptoms, and the highest titer was found in convalescent patients 7 weeks after clinical onset (Wong and Skelton. 1988). While Simondon F *et al* documented that the anti pertussis toxin increase was observed in a median of 42 days, in pertussis patients (Simondon *et al.* 1998).

The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA ELISA shows 20%, 46%, 50% and 57% for the samples collected after less than 7, 7-14, 15,21 and more than

21 days after the onset of symptoms. These findings agree with the study of Zackrisson *et al*, (1990) that they show that, samples obtained from patients with symptoms of less than 6 days lack IgA antibodies against FHA, while all samples obtained after 50 days or more of symptoms had detectable IgA antibodies. Granstorm G *et al* (1988) study indicates that the sensitivity of ELISA IgA in nasopharyngeal samples increased with disease duration, from 65% during the first week to 92% after more than 3 weeks of disease.

The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA shows a lower sensitivity as compared with *Bordetella pertussis* IgG in all the four categories in our study. That may be explained by the anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG apparent before anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA antibodies (Nagel *et al.* 1983).

The use of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG or IgA ELISA as a diagnostic procedure elevates the sensitivity of the anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and IgA as a single test. The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG or IgA ELISA shows sensitivity of 60%, 83%, 76% and 100% for <7, 7-14, 15-21 and > 21 days.

In our study, only 5 (7%) of the patients had a disease duration of less than 7 days at the time of diagnosis, while 63(93%) patients had a disease duration of 7 or more at the time of diagnosis.

The increase in the rate of positive results with disease duration in the anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG, IgA assay shows the opposite kinetics of sensitivity of culture for *Bordetella pertussis* (Al- Bargish. 1999). So the anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG or IgA ELISA therefore represent a valuable complement to culture.

As a conclusion, anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG or IgA ELISA gives a sensitivity of 87% in samples obtained after at least 7 days after the onset of was disease symptoms.

### **5-10 The sensitivity and specificity of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and IgA ELISA assay in diagnosis of pertussis**

Tables (16) & (17) show the diagnostic sensitivities and specificities of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG, IgA ELISA assay. The use of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG alone gives a 74% and 96% sensitivity and specificity. The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA alone gives a 50%, 94% sensitivity and specificity, respectively. While the use of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG or IgA criteria gives the best diagnostic sensitivity (82%) and a high specificity (92%) (Table -17).

Other serological techniques were investigated to diagnosis of whooping cough, but these techniques have a lower sensitivity than what the ELISA has. In Saleh (2000) study, serological techniques (Indirect hemagglutination test, Slide agglutination test, Countrimmunoelectrophoresis test and Complement fixation test) evaluated in the diagnosis of pertussis. The best and most sensitive method which gave higher positive samples was the Slide agglutination test, with 54.16% sensitivity.

Table (21) shows a comparison between our findings and other researchers' findings about the using of ELISA technique in laboratory diagnosis of *Bordetella pertussis* infection.

**Table (21): Comparison between the present study and other researchers' studies.**

Study	Sensitivity (%)	Specificity (%)	No. of cases	Description
<b>Present study</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>Anti <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgG or IgA</b>
<i>Aoyam et al. 1997</i>	67	-	51	
<i>Halperin et al. 1989</i>	87	-	77	PT- antibodies
<i>Lawrence and Paton. 1987</i>	77	-	1240	Antibodies to PT & FHA
<i>Klement et al. 2005</i>	53.8	98	-	Antibodies to whole bacteria
<i>Baughman et al.2004</i>	80	93	-	Whole sonicate IgA Elisa
<i>Hallander et al. 1991</i>	89	-	37	Anti-PT IgG Elisa
<i>Mertsola et al.1990</i>	61	98	50	Whole bacteria
	90	92		PT
	90	72		Outer membrane proteins
<i>Campbell et al.1988</i>	24	-	395	Whole <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> IgA
<i>Conway et al. 1988</i>	57	100	113	IgA – Elisa
<i>Granstorm G et al. 1988</i>	100	-	90	IgA & IgG to FHA & PT
<i>Granstorm G et al. 1988</i>	81	-	54	Anti PT & FHA in nasopharyngeal secretions

### **5-11 The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG, IgA to DTP vaccination**

To evaluate the humoral immune response (IgG and IgA) to DTP vaccination process, a total of 103 serum samples are collected from several age groups of 49 vaccinated and 54 unvaccinated people.

The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG (anti PT, FHA and LPS) levels show a significant elevation after vaccination with 1, 2 and 3 DTP vaccine doses (Fig-22).

Several studies documented high levels of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG antibodies to pertussis toxin and filamentous hemagglutinin and Lipopolysaccharide of *Bordetella pertussis* after vaccination of DTP vaccine (Samz *et al.* 2002; vanden Berg *et al.* 2000; Tomoda *et al.* 1991).

The anti PT-IgG has shown to be protected in several animal models, including the intracerebral inoculation model (Sato Y *et al.* 1985; Sato H and Sato Y. 1984; Oda *et al.* 1984), the intranasal challenge model (Robinson *et al.* 1989) and the aerosol challenge model (Robinson *et al.* 1989; Gupta *et al.* 1988; Halperin *et al.* 1988; Sato Y. 1981; Pittman *et al.* 1984; Sato Y *et al.* 1980).

A pertussis vaccine could prevent the disease either by neutralizing toxins activities of *Bordetella pertussis* or by eliminating the microbe. The current whole-cell and the new acellular vaccines seem to protect severe disease but not necessarily infection by the bacterium (Poltkin and Cadoz. 1997; Hewlett. 1997; Mink *et al.* 1994; Ad Hoc Group. 1988; Pittman. 1979).

There is a correlation between high levels of serum IgG to *Bordetella pertussis* antigens and the rapid initial clearance of bacteria, which may be due to the transduction of antibodies into the lungs (Redhead *et al.* 1993).

The bacterial activity against *Bordetella pertussis* Lipopolysaccharides associated with the presence of certain IgG subtype, specifically the presence of IgG<sub>3</sub> and the subtype that is the most efficient at fixing complement (Weiss *et al.* 1998). The elicitation of pertussis toxin neutralizing IgG antibodies in the lungs as well as in the systemic circulation is considered one mechanism of protection against respiratory infection with *Bordetella pertussis* (Shahin *et al.* 1990).

Our results show that, the anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA shows a non-significant elevation in children vaccinated with 1 and two doses of DTP. The significant elevation of *Bordetella pertussis* IgA was noticed in children who received 3 doses of DTP. These findings may explain that the DTP immunization did not induce a high level of anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgA (Mertsola *et al.* 1984; Nagel and Poot-Scholten. 1983; Burstyn *et al.* 1983; MacAulay. 1981; MacAulay. 1979). *Bordetella pertussis* is not an invasive organism, but it induces the pathogenic process from colonization of the ciliated cells in respiratory tract (Pitman. 1984), so factors inhibit colonization should be protective. Pertussis toxin and FHA are considered to be important for the attachment of the organism to ciliated cells (Tuomanen and Weiss. 1985). The anti PT and FHA IgA have a high antiadherence activity (Tuomanen *et al.* 1984). The IgA response to FHA and PT was lower in vaccinated children than in pertussis patients (Thomas *et al.* 1989) and that will reduce the anti adherence activity to *Bordetella pertussis* in serum and recreations and that may contribute to the lack of efficacy of the current pertussis vaccine (Tuomanen *et al.* 1984).

Our findings show an important influence of age on humoral immune response to DTP vaccination. The results show higher levels of IgG and IgA in adolescents than those levels of younger children. (Figures 24 and 25).

Polyzou *et al* indicate that, the anti *Bordetella pertussis* antibody concentrations were significantly elevated with age, and show that the anti *Bordetella pertussis* antibodies were significantly higher in adults than in less than 10 years children (Polyzon *et al.* 2004). Stroffolini *et al* (1989) show that, a high anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG after vaccination in 67% of 11-12 years old children compared with 24% noticed in 1-3 years old children. Some of vaccinated healthy children showed low serological results because of waned immunity with time (Saleh. 2000).

The susceptibility of newborn infants to infection may be the result of the lack of IgA antiadherence antibody, which is presumably absent by virtue of the exclusion of this antibody class from transplacental transport (Tuomanen *et al.* 1984).

Our study shows an anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG mean level of 19.14 U/ml in unvaccinated less than 2 months infants (Fig 24). This result explained by placental transfer of IgG antibodies to *Bordetella pertussis*. The maternal antibodies against FHA and PT were detected in cord blood, consistent with reports that there is placental transfer of IgG antibodies to *Bordetella pertussis* (Burstyn *et al.* 1983). The newborn children do not gain transplacental protection even when mothers are immuned because of natural infection (Gordon and Hood. 1981). The presence of such antibodies adversely affects the ability of an infant to respond to immunization with pertussis vaccine (Burstyn *et al.* 1983).

Our findings show that there is 11% (11/103) of normal population in this study which has a positive anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG or IgA level. Of those 11 positive cases, there are 4 noticed in adults. These results suggest an asymptomatic *Bordetella pertussis* infection. That incidence of pertussis in adults may be explained by decline in immunity induced by pertussis vaccine (Lambert. 1985; Jenkinson. 1988). The rate of children with negative clinical history of pertussis and serological evidence of *B. pertussis* infection is high in the general population (Saleh. 2000). The asymptomatic carriage and mildly symptomatic adults represent the source of spread of pertussis infection (Nelson. 1978; Herwadt. 1991; CDC. 1995).

## **5- 12 The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG & IgA in health-care workers**

The outbreak among health-care workers is of special concern because of the risk of transmission to vulnerable patients (Wright *et al.* 1999). These outbreaks can result in substantial public health and economic costs (Calugar *et al.* 2003).

To evaluate the role of the health-care workers in epidemiology of pertussis, 20 serum samples were collected from medical staff in Babylon Maternity and Children Hospital to determine the anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and IgA levels. The results show that, 14 (70%) of the health-care staff has a positive IgG or IgA level (Table-19). These findings indicate an exposure to pertussis cases and a circulation of *Bordetella pertussis* in the

hospital environment, or it indicates asymptomatic pertussis cases between health-care workers.

There are several studies which show the role of health-care workers in the transmission of pertussis. Christie *et al* show that a serological evidence of asymptomatic pertussis infection was evident in 44% of the health-care workers (Christie *et al.*2001). Bassinet *et al* describe pertussis outbreak in health-care workers in French general hospital. The index cases transmitted pertussis to other health-care worker, who in turn, contaminated other staff and two immunosuppressed patients (Bassinnet *et al.* 2004). Aintablian N *et al* in a study of 12 healthcare workers 7(58%) of the subjects have a positive *Bordetella pertussis* DNA by using PCR (Aintablian *et al.* 1998). de Juanes JR *et al* show that the prevalence of *Bordetella pertussis* antibodies by using the ELISA technique was 51.7% of 487 healthcare workers (de Juanes *et al.* 2004).

## Conclusions & Recommendations

### Conclusions

1. The highest incidence of pertussis occurs in unvaccinated patients of less than 1 year old infants.
2. A high incidence of pertussis complications occur in unvaccinated and less than one year of old infants.
3. High incidences of pertussis infection occur in the rural area of Babylon Province as a result of low vaccination coverage of DTP in these areas.
4. The anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG or IgA ELISA technique is a useful diagnostic tool in the laboratory diagnosis of *Bordetella pertussis* infections.
5. The best sensitivity and specificity obtained in anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG or IgA ELISA were obtained in samples collected after at least 7 days after the onset of pertussis symptoms.
6. A significant increase occurs in anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG levels after vaccination with DTP, and these levels are affected by the age of the vaccinated subjects.
7. Lower IgA responses occur after DTP vaccinated especially in subjects less than 1 year old.
8. A high rate of asymptomatic *Bordetella pertussis* infection occurs in the population of Babylon province, especially in adults.
9. A high rate of asymptomatic *Bordetella pertussis* infection occurs in healthcare workers.

## Recommendations

1. Use the anti *Bordetella pertussis* IgG and IgA Elisa technique in the diagnosis of whooping cough, and in serological surveys or vaccine efficacy trials.
2. DTP booster doses in 1, 2 and preschool age should be considered.
3. Improve the vaccination coverage in the rural area of Babylon Province.
4. Give attention to the nosocomial transmission of pertussis via healthcare workers by diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of the *Bordetella pertussis* infections of those healthcare workers.
5. Evaluate of the new acellular pertussis vaccines and compare their efficacy with the whole cell pertussis vaccine efficacy.
6. Give attention to asymptomatic or mild *Bordetella pertussis* infections in adolescents and adults.

Appendix**Appendix A**

The O. D. values and IgG, IgA level in ELISA U/ml of all subjects in this study:

**1) The O. D. values and IgG, IgA level of the patients:**

No.	O. D	IgG (U/ml)	O.D	IgA (U/ml)
1.	3.734	233.89	0.633	17.10
.2	3.531	220.62	0.211	7.12
.3	3.421	213.43	0.124	5.06
.4	2.546	156.24	0.210	7.10
.5	2.745	169.25	0.123	5.04
.6	1.128	63.56	0.200	6.86
.7	2.387	145.85	0.352	10.45
.8	3.997	251.08	0.584	15.94
.9	3.135	194.74	0.143	5.61
.10	0.528	24.35	0.109	4.71
.11	0.567	26.90	0.448	12.72
.12	1.879	112.65	0.970	25.06
.13	1.902	114.15	0.062	3.60
.14	2.806	173.24	0.147	5.61
.15	1.802	107.62	0.168	6.10
.16	1.702	101.08	0.211	7.12
.17	1.906	114.41	0.174	6.25
.18	1.103	61.93	0.147	5.61
.19	1.480	86.57	0.112	4.78
.20	1.978	119.12	0.836	21.90
.21	2.200	133.63	0.165	6.03
.22	0.703	35.79	0.511	14.21
.23	2.273	138.40	0.148	5.63
.24	1.834	109.71	0.810	21.28
.25	1.942	116.77	0.840	4.12
.26	2.368	144.61	0.174	6.25
.27	3.634	227.35	0.421	12.08
.28	1.936	116.37	0.556	15.28
.29	3.521	219.97	0.431	12.32
.30	1.934	116.24	0.504	14.05
.31	1.236	70.62	0.517	14.35
.32	0.904	48.92	0.077	3.95
.33	0.901	48.73	0.634	17.12
.34	2.166	131.41	0.107	4.66
.35	2.166	131.41	0.117	4.90
.36	1.954	117.55	0.801	21.07
.37	2.173	131.86	0.603	16.93
.38	2.114	128.01	0.632	17.07
.39	1.865	111.73	0.422	12.11
.40	1.763	105.07	0.543	14.97
.41	2.594	159.83	0.148	5.63

.42	1.146	64.74	0.107	4.66
.43	0.644	31.93	0.186	6.53
.44	0.421	17.35	0.026	2.75
.45	2.597	159.58	0.714	19.01
.46	2.546	156.24	0.104	4.59
.47	0.607	29.51	0.098	4.45
.48	0.458	19.77	0.093	4.33
.49	3.590	224.48	0.761	20.12
.50	3.726	233.37	0.446	12.68
.51	0.527	24.28	0.604	16.41
.52	3.137	194.87	0.157	5.84
.53	0.570	27.09	0.628	16.98
.54	1.841	110.16	0.141	5.47
.55	1.547	90.95	0.432	12.34
.56	3.124	194.02	0.512	14.24
.57	1.157	65.46	0.102	4.54
.58	2.874	177.68	0.551	15.16
.59	3.162	196.50	0.986	25.44
.60	3.317	206.64	0.438	12.49
.61	2.127	128.86	0.570	15.61
.62	3.182	197.81	0.435	12.42
.63	3.415	213.04	0.400	11.59
.64	2.178	132.19	0.519	14.40
.65	2.168	131.54	0.598	16.06
.66	3.971	249.38	0.580	15.84
.67	3.439	214.61	0.984	25.39
.68	2.618	160.95	0.621	16.81

## 2) The O. D. values and IgG, IgA level of the Normal subjects:

No.	O. D	IgG (U/ml)	O.D	IgA (U/ml)
1.	0.732	37.68	0.089	4.24
.2	0.480	21.21	0.039	3.05
.3	0.582	27.88	0.073	3.86
.4	0.300	9.45	0.071	3.81
.5	0.330	11.41	0.087	4.19
.6	0.510	23.17	0.177	6.32
.7	0.574	27.35	0.189	6.60
.8	0.206	3.30	0.076	3.93
.9	0.171	1.01	0.081	4.05
.10	0.776	40.56	0.044	3.17
.11	0.460	19.90	0.059	3.53
.12	0.634	31.28	0.093	4.33
.13	0.172	1.08	0.099	4.47
.14	0.350	12.71	0.091	4.28
.15	0.772	40.30	0.076	3.93
.16	0.789	41.41	0.155	5.80
.17	0.743	38.40	0.158	5.87
.18	1.724	102.52	0.120	4.97
.19	1.089	61.01	0.086	4.17
.20	0.739	38.14	0.135	5.32

Appendix

.21	0.525	24.15	0.091	4.28
.22	0.410	16.64	0.101	4.52
.23	0.950	51.93	0.093	4.33
.24	1.025	56.83	0.100	4.50
.25	0.699	35.52	0.093	4.33
.26	0.990	54.54	0.108	4.69
.27	0.745	38.53	0.093	4.33
.28	0.748	38.73	0.086	4.17
.29	0.786	41.21	0.181	6.41
.30	0.884	47.62	0.530	14.66
.31	0.834	44.35	0.174	6.25
.32	1.411	82.06	0.189	6.60
.33	0.743	38.40	0.187	6.55
.34	0.668	33.50	0.246	7.95
.35	0.679	34.22	0.235	7.69
.36	0.627	30.82	0.124	5.06
.37	0.339	12.00	0.102	4.54
.38	0.460	19.90	0.103	4.57
.39	0.214	3.83	0.099	4.47
.40	0.801	42.19	0.132	5.25
.41	0.358	13.24	0.063	3.62
.42	0.659	32.91	0.144	5.45
.43	0.788	41.34	0.112	4.78
.44	0.689	34.87	0.155	5.80
.45	0.864	46.31	0.116	4.87
.46	0.802	42.26	0.578	15.80
.47	0.518	23.69	0.183	6.64
.48	1.159	65.59	0.195	6.74
.49	2.357	143.89	0.062	3.60
.50	1.021	56.57	0.103	4.57
.51	1.005	55.52	0.162	5.96
.52	1.026	56.90	0.109	4.71
.53	1.000	55.20	0.179	6.36
.54	0.851	45.46	0.104	4.59
.55	0.381	14.74	0.153	5.75
.56	0.761	39.58	0.102	4.54
.57	0.780	40.82	0.242	7.85
.58	1.255	71.86	0.158	5.87
.59	0.607	29.51	0.227	7.50
.60	0.846	45.13	0.157	5.84
.61	0.458	19.77	1.158	29.51
.62	0.789	41.41	1.168	29.74
.63	1.039	57.75	0.286	8.87
.64	0.590	28.40	0.151	5.70
.65	0.781	40.88	0.134	5.30
.66	0.570	27.09	0.105	4.61
.67	0.438	18.47	0.206	7.00
.68	0.612	29.84	0.161	5.94
.69	0.658	32.84	0.124	5.06
.70	0.670	33.63	0.174	6.25
.71	0.739	38.14	0.232	7.62
.72	1.056	58.86	0.348	10.36
.73	0.810	42.78	0.217	7.26

Appendix

.74	0.980	53.89	0.347	10.34
.75	2.311	140.88	1.148	29.27
.76	1.151	65.07	0.158	5.87
.77	1.138	64.22	0.276	8.66
.78	0.490	21.86	0.141	5.47
.79	0.680	34.28	0.124	5.06
.80	0.470	20.56	0.105	4.61
.81	0.337	11.86	0.206	7.00
.82	0.511	23.24	0.151	5.70
.83	0.557	26.24	0.114	4.83
.84	0.571	27.16	0.164	6.01

**3) The O. D. values and IgG, IgA level of the adults**

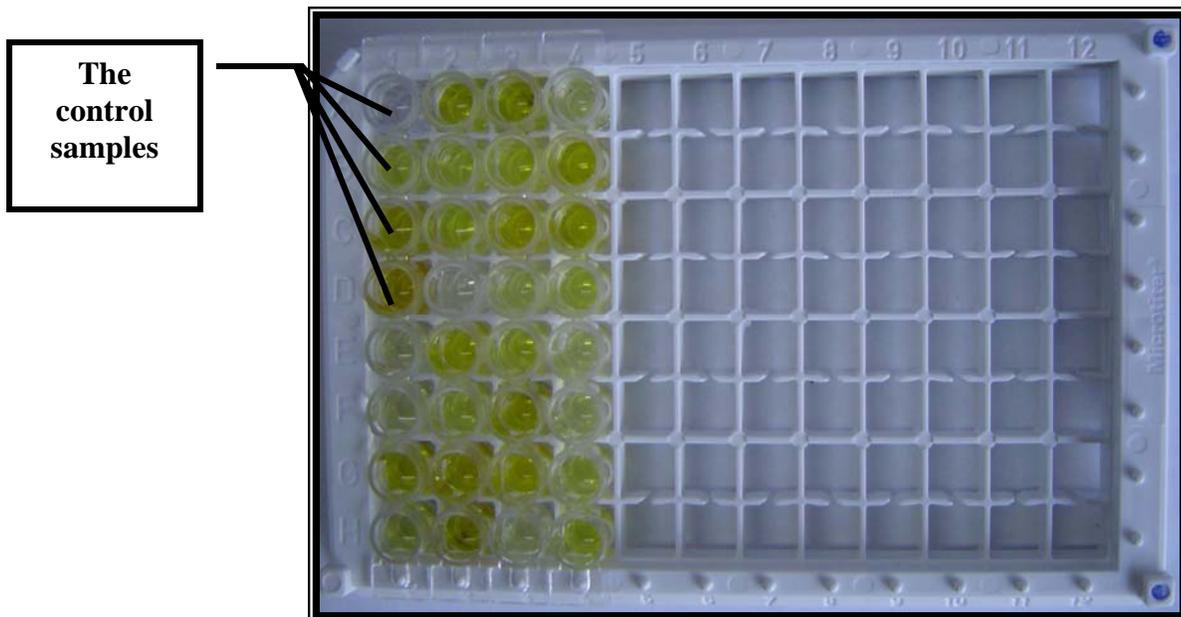
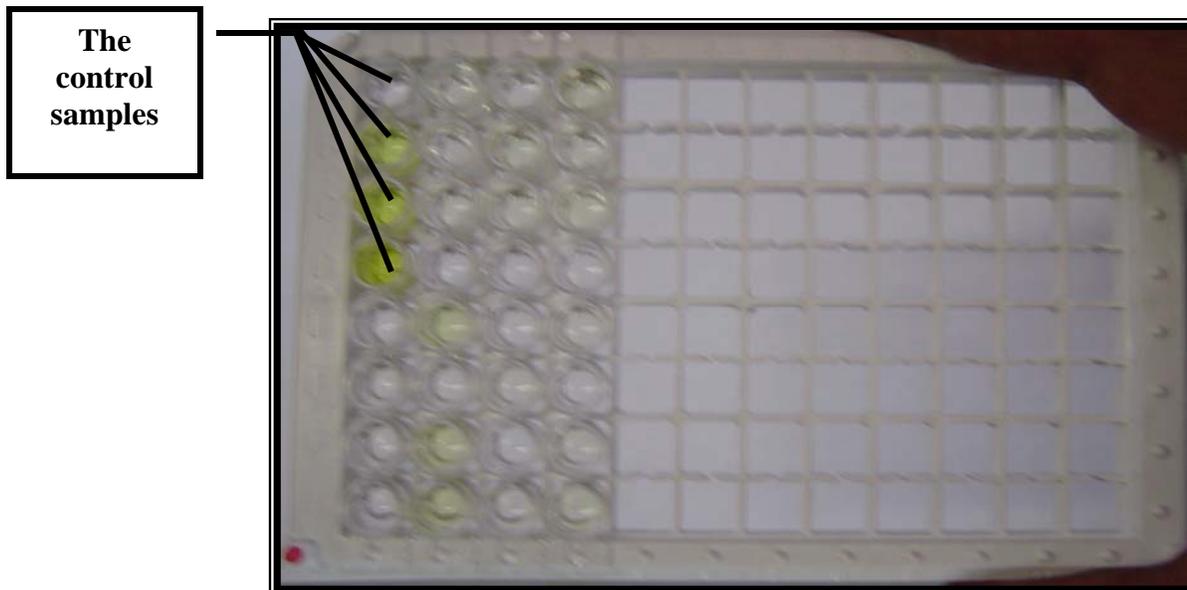
No.	O. D	IgG (U/ml)	O.D	IgA (U/ml)
1.	1.900	114.02	0.222	7.38
.2	1.315	75.79	1.058	27.14
.3	1.054	58.73	0.112	4.78
.4	1.057	58.92	0.260	8.28
.5	1.019	56.44	0.201	6.88
.6	1.017	56.31	0.154	5.77
.7	1.091	61.15	0.269	8.94
.8	2.134	129.32	0.236	7.71
.9	2.001	120.62	1.001	25.80
.10	1.031	57.22	0.202	6.91
.11	1.156	65.39	0.134	5.30
.12	1.357	78.53	0.205	6.98
.13	1.240	70.88	0.128	5.16
.14	1.146	64.74	0.234	7.66
.15	0.480	21.21	0.051	3.34
.16	0.670	33.63	0.068	3.74
.17	0.460	19.90	0.071	3.81
.18	0.347	12.52	0.087	4.19
.19	0.521	23.89	0.070	3.79
.20	0.480	21.21	0.051	3.34

**4) The O. D. values and IgG, IgA level of the Healthcare workers:**

No.	O. D	IgG (U/ml)	O.D	IgA (U/ml)
1.	1.019	56.44	0.780	20.57
.2	1.486	86.96	0.798	21.00
.3	1.585	93.43	0.357	10.57
.4	2.522	154.67	0.148	5.63
.5	1.570	92.45	0.317	9.63
.6	2.546	156.24	0.255	8.16
.7	2.695	165.98	0.754	19.96
.8	1.054	58.37	0.890	23.17
.9	1.342	77.55	0.647	17.43
.10	1.841	110.16	0.150	5.68
.11	2.114	128.01	0.347	10.34
.12	0.770	40.16	0.848	22.18
.13	2.634	162.00	0.741	19.65
.14	2.407	147.09	0.562	15.42
.15	2.556	156.90	0.233	7.64
.16	2.346	143.17	1.121	28.63
.17	1.215	69.25	0.354	10.50
.18	1.132	63.83	0.344	10.03
.19	1.342	77.55	0.365	10.76
.20	1.175	66.64	0.204	6.95

Appendix**Appendix B****The ELISA test plates of IgG and IgA:**

- The first four wells of the plate contain control samples, all the rest of wells contain the test samples.

**1) The ELISA test plate of IgG****2) The ELISA test plate of IgA**

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## الخلاصة

**IgA IgG *Bordetella pertussis***

**ELISA**

**.(DPT)**

**36)**

**68 :**

**54**

**49)**

**103 ( 32**

**20 (**

**IgA IgG *Bordetella pertussis***

**ELISA**

**20 68**

**.1: 1.27**

**.( %49)**

**36 .**

**% 29**

**%71**

**6**

**(%38) 26**

**(%53)**

**.( 3)**

**(%9)**

**(%88)**

**%88**

**.(%4) (%29)**

**(%26)**

**%69**

**%64**

***Bordetella***

**%100 %77**

**IgG *pertussis***

***Bordetella pertussis***

. %91 %67 IgG  
 IgA *Bordetella pertussis*  
 %100 %33  
 %86 %72 IgA *Bordetella pertussis*  
 .  
 21  
 ( %82 92)  
 .IgA IgG *Bordetella pertussis*  
 IgG *Bordetella pertussis*  
 (U/ml 143.89-19.77 ) U/ml 56.41  
 IgG *Bordetella pertussis*  
 .(U/ml 1.01-56.9 ) U/ml 29.33  
 IgA *Bordetella pertussis*  
 (U/ml 3.6-29.74 ) U/ml 9.05  
 U/ml 4.79 IgA *Bordetella pertussis*  
 .(U/ml 3.05- 7 )  
 (103/11) % 10.7  
 %70 IgA IgG *Bordetella pertussis*  
 (20/14)  
 . IgA IgG *Bordetella pertussis*