The timing of the pregnancy booster affects the antibody transfer – if it takes places within two weeks of delivery, the protective effect could be lower, as immunity is not immediate after administering the vaccine. Immunization of pregnant women with Tdap between 27–30 weeks was associated with the highest level of umbilical cord antibodies against pertussis toxin (PT) and filamentous hemagglutinin (FHA).

The postpartum pertussis booster is better than no booster, but inferior to the pregnancy booster. Breastfeeding however does confirm some protection even in these cases.

**Topic conclusions**

Pregnant women are advised to get the whooping cough vaccine between 27 and 36 weeks of each pregnancy.