

Tetanus Prophylaxis for Wound Management

1. Assess the patient's immunization history in **Panorama** or the **eHR viewer Immunization tab**:

- ✓ Determine the number of tetanus vaccine doses they previously received.
- ✓ Determine when their last tetanus vaccine dose was given.
- ✓ Ask about adverse events they had following any previous tetanus vaccine or tetanus immune globulin (Tlg) doses.

2. Tetanus Prophylaxis Recommendations

Tetanus Immunization History	Clean, Minor Wounds		All Other Wounds ³	
	Vaccine ^{1, 2, 6}	Tlg ⁵	Vaccine ^{1, 2, 6}	Tlg ⁵
Uncertain or less than 3 doses ⁷	Yes	No	Yes	Yes ³
3 or more doses in a vaccine series and less than 5 years since last booster dose	No	No	No	No ⁴
3 or more doses in a vaccine series and more than 5 years <u>but</u> less than 10 years since last booster dose	No	No	Yes	No ⁴
3 or more doses in a vaccine series and more than 10 years since last booster dose	Yes	No	Yes	No ⁴

1. **Tdap is administered to everyone 7 years and older.** Refer clients to Public Health if they have a contraindication to a pertussis-containing vaccine.
2. Refer children **younger than 7 years old** to Public Health for appropriate tetanus-containing vaccines, based on their age and immunization history.
3. **Proper wound cleaning is important to prevent tetanus.** Examples: animal bites; wounds from road traffic accidents or caused by rusty/dirt contaminated objects; dirt contaminated wounds (soil, human or animal feces or saliva), puncture wounds; and wounds resulting from crushing, burns and frostbite.
4. **No, unless individuals are known** to have significant humoral immune deficiency state (e.g., HIV, agammaglobulinemia), since immune response to tetanus toxoid may be suboptimal.
5. **Administer Tlg ASAP** (up to 21 days after injury) as deep IM injection, using a different syringe and site from the tetanus vaccine.
6. If a contraindication exists for receiving a tetanus vaccine, **Tlg must be given** when tetanus vaccine is indicated.
7. Refer patient to Public Health to complete their tetanus immunization series.

3. Report Prophylactic Treatment

- ❖ **All administered vaccines and immune globulins must be reported to Public Health ASAP for entry into Panorama.**
- ❖ **Facts sheets for vaccines and immune globulins are available at: [Immunization Forms and Fact Sheets](#).**

