

# Tetanus Prophylaxis in Wound Management

## 1. History

Assess patient's immunization history.

- Determine the number of doses of tetanus toxoid previously given.
- Determine when the last dose was given. (Refer children who have incomplete immunization to their primary care provider for completion of their primary series.)
- Ask about previous adverse reactions following tetanus toxoid.

## 2. Treatment

	Tetanus toxoid immunization history	For Clean Minor Wounds	For All Other Wounds <sup>†</sup>
0-6 Years	Incomplete or no tetanus toxoid immunization	Refer to primary care provider for DaPTP + Hib or DaPTP if due	Give TIG and refer to primary care provider for DaPTP + Hib or DaPTP if due
	Up-to-date tetanus toxoid immunization	No immunization required	No immunization required
7 Years and Older	At least 3 previous doses of tetanus toxoid, with the <b>most recent 10 years ago or longer</b>	Give Tdap	Give Tdap
	At least 3 previous doses of tetanus toxoid, with the <b>most recent between 6 and 9 years ago</b>	No immunization required	Give Tdap
	At least 3 doses of tetanus toxoid, with the <b>most recent 5 years ago or less</b>	No immunization required	No immunization required
	Fewer than 3 doses of tetanus toxoid	Give Tdap*	Give Tdap* and TIG
	Uncertain number of doses of tetanus toxoid	Give Tdap*	Give Tdap* and TIG
	No tetanus toxoid immunization	Give Tdap*	Give Tdap* and TIG

*Treatment recommendations are based on the Canadian Immunization Guide, 2006.*

\* After receiving Tdap, patients 7 years and older who have incomplete or no immunization should be referred to their primary care provider to get caught up with their immunization series.

† Individuals with this type of wound who have a significant humoral immune deficiency state should be given TIG even if they are fully immunized.

## 3. Reporting

- Complete a reciprocal notification form for all those who receive Tdap and/or TIG.
- Return the form to your local Public Health Services Office or one of the District Offices listed below.

**Annapolis Valley Health**  
Public Health Services  
23 Eamscliffe Ave.  
Wolfville, NS B4P 1X4  
Tel: 542-6310  
Fax: 542-6333

**Capital Health**  
Public Health Services  
7 Mellor Ave., Unit 5  
Dartmouth, NS B3B 0E8  
Tel: 481-5800  
Fax: 481-5889

**Cumberland Health Authority**  
Public Health Services  
18 South Albion St  
Amherst, NS B4H 2V3  
Tel: 667-3319  
Fax: 893-2614

**Pictou County Health Authority**  
Public Health Services  
825 East River Road  
New Glasgow, NS B2H 3S6  
Tel: 752-5151  
Fax: 893-2614

**South West Health**  
Public Health Services  
Yarmouth Regional Hospital  
60 Vancouver St., 4th Floor  
Yarmouth, NS B5A 2P5  
Tel: 742-7141  
Fax: 742-6062

**Cape Breton District Health Authority**  
Public Health Services  
235 Townsend St.  
2nd Floor  
Sydney, NS B1P 5E7  
Tel: 563-2400  
Fax: 563-2005

**Colchester East Hants Health Authority**  
Public Health Services  
201 Willow St.  
3rd Floor Annex  
Truro, NS B2N 4Z9  
Tel: 893-5820  
Fax: 893-2614

**Guysborough Antigonish Strait Health Authority**  
Public Health Services  
Martha Centre  
23 Bay St., Suite 2N  
Antigonish, NS B2G 2G7  
Tel: 867-4500 ext 4800  
Fax: 863-5111

**South Shore Health**  
Public Health Services  
215 Dominion Street  
Suite 109  
Bridgewater, NS B4V 2K7  
Tel: 543-0850  
Fax: 543-8024

Public Health Services



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