

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	
	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 ⁴	No ⁴
3 or more doses in a vaccine series and more than 5 years but 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) **Yes, for individuals known to have a significant humoral immune deficiency state** (e.g., HIV, agammaglobulinemia or hypogammaglobulinemia) because they may not respond adequately to tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine. **Individuals with humoral immune deficiency who have wounds that are not minor and clean should receive both Tlg and tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine, regardless of the time elapsed since the last booster.**
- 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 All Immunizations

- Administered vaccines and immune globulins must be reported to Public Health ASAP for entry into Panorama.
- Vaccine and immune globulin facts sheets are available at [saskatchewan.ca](https://www.saskatchewan.ca).

