Tetanus Prophylaxis for Wound Management

1. **Asses 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 (TIg) doses.

2. **Tetanus Prophylaxis Recommendations**

Tetanus Immunization History	Clean, Minor Wounds		All Other Wounds	
	Vaccine [1, 2, 6]	TIg [5]	Vaccine [1, 2, 6]	TIg [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 who are **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 TIg and tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine, regardless of the time elapsed since the last booster.**
5) **Administer TIg ASAP** (up to 21 days after injury) as deep IM injection. If tetanus vaccine, rabies vaccine, or rabies immune globulin are also being given, use separate syringes. **Rabies vaccine and rabies immune globulin cannot be given in the same limb.** All other injection sites to be at least 2.5 cm apart for each product.
6) If a contraindication exists for receiving a tetanus vaccine, **TIg 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.