



# Elimination of Neonatal Tetanus

## –FIELD GUIDE

In order to sustain the success achieved in the elimination of neonatal tetanus in the Americas, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) has put together this practical guide. This publication, developed and written by medical experts in this area, offers a unique approach to the strategies that have made these achievements possible. The guide provides up-to-date information and describes innovative field techniques that can be adapted and applied throughout the Region. The detailed clinical description, diagrams, illustrations, and latest statistical data on neonatal tetanus make this manual easy to use.

*Elimination of Neonatal Tetanus: Field Guide* highlights the progress made in surveillance to identify and monitor high-risk areas as well as immunization activities geared especially toward women of childbearing age who live in those areas. The object of these activities is to complement measures such as proper care in childbirth and the puerperium and the administration of the triple vaccine against diphtheria, whooping cough, and tetanus (DPT) to infants and children, and of tetanus and diphtheria toxoid (TD/Td) to schoolchildren and pregnant women.

Most of the information contained in this manual was obtained directly from technical documents produced by PAHO and other WHO Regional Offices. Several textbooks and other publications were also consulted. Some of them are listed at the end of the guide. The appendices contain model forms that can be copied or modified to suit the specific needs of the program.

The book offers physicians, nurses, and other health personnel working to eliminate this disease at the national, state, and local levels a progressive guide for organizing and implementing control and elimination activities. It will also be very useful for health professionals working in areas where the disease has already been eliminated.

*Elimination of Neonatal Tetanus: Field Guide*—one of a series of immunization guides that also address polio, measles, rubella, yellow fever, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, *Haemophilus influenzae* type b, and hepatitis B—is an essential tool for local and regional health workers, health promoters, physicians, nurses, and students in the field.

### This publication includes sections on:

- Epidemiology of Neonatal Tetanus
- Clinical Aspects
- Case Definition
- Surveillance
- Case Investigation
- Data Analysis
- Control of High-risk Areas
- Program Surveillance
- Tetanus Vaccines

2005, approx. 73 pp., ISBN 92 75 11602 4

Code: SP 602. Also available in Spanish, Code: PC 602