

Tetanus Prevention During Wound Management: Instructions for Haiti

Adults or children with extensive or dirty wounds must receive tetanus immune globulin and also one dose of tetanus toxoid, unless they can prove they received 3 doses or more of tetanus toxoid and the last dose was administered within the last 10 years.

WHAT TO ADMINISTER:

- Tetanus immune globuline
- Tetanus toxoid

WHEN TO ADMINISTER:

Tetanus immune globuline:

- 250 units if of human origin
- 1500 to 5000 units if of animal origin (equine)
- *Human* origin immuno globuline is preferred. If a person who already received *animal* (equine) immune globuline receives animal (equine) origine immune globuline again, there is an increased risk for allergic reaction.

Tetanus toxoid:

• Administer 0.5 ml by intramuscular injection

Tetanus toxoid can be found in the following presentations:

DTP: vaccine for pediatric use, administered before age 7 years and that contains diphtheria and tetanus toxoid in addition to pertussis vaccine.

DTaP: exactly the same as above, except that the pertussis component is acellular.

DT: diphtheria and tetanus toxoid for use in children aged <7 years.

Td: diphtheria and tetanus toxoid for use in adults (from age 7 years).

WHEN TO ADMINISTER TETANUS TOXOID OR IMMUNE GLOBULINE:

Number of tetanus toxoid doses previously received	Clean, minor wounds		Dirty, extensive wounds	
	Tetanus toxoid	Tetanus immune globuline	Tetanus toxoid	Tetanus immune globuline
Uncertain or less than 3	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
3 doses or more	No	No	No	No



HOW TO STORE AND TRANSPORT:

Vaccines and immune globuline must be transported, stored, and maintained in refrigerated conditions (2 to 8 degrees Centigrade) until their use. DO NOT FREEZE.

NOTE:

THESE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY TO ADMINISTRATION OF TETANUS TOXOID IN PLACES WHERE WOUNDED PERSONS ARE CARED FOR OR SURGERY IS PERFORMED;

THEY DO NOT APPLY TO VACCINATION CAMPAIGNS OR ROUTINE VACCINATION.