

Tetanus Prophylaxis in Wound Management

All patients 7 years of age and older

▶ Tdap (tetanus toxoid, reduced diphtheria toxoid & pertussis vaccine)

History of Previous Tetanus Immunization	Clean, Minor Wounds	All Other Wounds ¹
Uncertain or fewer than 3 doses ²	Tdap	Tdap and TIG ³
3 or more previous doses ²	Tdap unless documented prior receipt of Tdap	

Recommendations:

Age of Patient	Immunization	IM (Intramuscular) Injection
<7 years old	DTaP	
▶ 7 years of age or older	Tdap	1" Needle 23-25 gauge

footnotes

- All other wounds can include: wounds contaminated with dirt, feces, soil, and saliva, puncture wounds, avulsions, and wounds caused by missiles, crushing, burns, and frostbite.
- There is no minimum interval between Td and Tdap.
- Tetanus Immune Globulin (TIG). The recommended dose for wounds of average severity is 250 units intramuscularly. When both tetanus toxoid containing vaccine and TIG are administered at the same time, use separate syringes and injection sites.
- Updated Recommendations for Use of Tdap Vaccine from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, 2011, MMWR: January 14, 2011 Vol. 60, No.1, pg 13-15.

Have questions? Call the Virginia Department of Health, Immunization Division at 1.800.568.1929