

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 TIG³
3 or more previous doses²	Tdap unless documented prior receipt of Tdap⁴	

Age of Patient	Immunization	
<7 years old	DTaP	IM (Intramuscular Injection) 1" Needle 23-25 gauge
► 7 years of age or older (including anyone over 64 and pregnant women)	Tdap	

footnotes

¹All other wounds can include: wounds contaminated with dirt, feces, soil, and saliva; puncture wounds; avulsions; and wounds caused by missiles, crushing, burns, and frostbite.

²ACIP and AAP recommendations permit any interval between doses of Td and Tdap. For more information, visit EZIZ.org.

³Tetanus Immune Globulin (TIG). The recommended prophylaxis 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. (Note that therapeutic dose of TIG in patients with tetanus symptoms is 3000–6000 units.)

⁴Tdap recommended for patients with wounds that are **not** clean or minor if they last received a dose of tetanus-containing vaccine 5 or more years ago.

