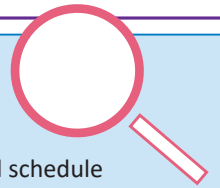


Tetanus Status



The current Primary Immunisation Schedule against tetanus in the UK is 5 doses of tetanus vaccine (REVAXIS).

- 3 doses in the first year of life, 1 dose pre-school and the final dose around 10 years later.
- This has been the case since 1961 unless the person's parents withheld consent for immunisation.
- It should be standard practice to be mindful that patients born before 1961 may **NOT** have received the standard schedule. Careful history taking is essential as other populations e.g. migrant communities may also not have had full immunisation.
- Recent guidance from PHE (Nov 2018) states that if a person sustains a tetanus prone wound AND their last dose as part of the standard immunisation schedule was more than 10 years ago that they should receive a reinforcing dose of tetanus vaccine. If they have a **high risk** tetanus prone wound AND their last dose of tetanus vaccine was more than 10 years ago they should receive a reinforcing dose of tetanus vaccine along with Human Tetanus Immunoglobulin (TIG),

- Patients who have **NOT** received a full course of tetanus vaccine, or are unsure of their vaccination status (unless this can be confirmed via the SCR/health record) should be given a dose of tetanus vaccine (REVAXIS) when they attend with any wound. If further doses are needed the GP should be informed.
- Patients needing REVAXIS also need TIG if they have a **TETANUS PRONE** OR **HIGH RISK tetanus prone** wound. TIG affords them immediate protection which REVAXIS does not.

- People who are fully vaccinated AND the last dose was less than 10 years ago **DO NOT** need TIG even for **HIGH RISK** tetanus prone wounds.
- Treat Immunocompromised patients as if their Vaccinations are incomplete.

Tetanus vaccination/prevention

Patient presents with a wound or burns

