

MORE FACTS ABOUT TETANUS

FACT:

Almost all reported cases of tetanus occur in persons who either have never received the primary series of tetanus-preventing immunizations, or those who completed a primary series but have not had a booster vaccination in the past 10 years.

FACT:

People with tetanus may have to spend several weeks in the hospital under intensive care and frequently require ventilator support.

THE BEST “TREATMENT”

IS PREVENTION

THROUGH

VACCINATION

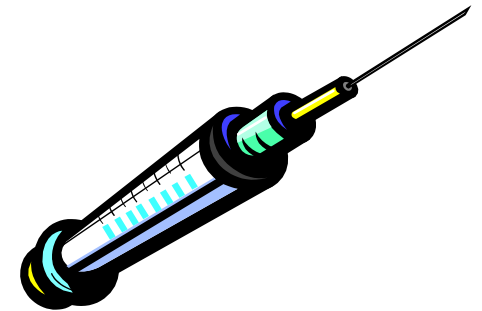
Southeast District Health Department

2511 Schneider Ave.
Auburn NE 68305

Phone 402-274-3993
Toll Free 877-777-0424

Tetanus

(Lockjaw)



Tetanus

What is Tetanus?

Tetanus, commonly called lockjaw, is a serious illness caused by tetanus bacteria that effects the nervous system.

Where does it live?

The bacteria lives in soil, dust and manure.

How do you get it?

Contrary to common belief , tetanus doesn't just come from rusty nails, but may also be caused by lacerations and cuts, animal bites, surgical wounds, scrapes and splinters, injectable drug use, and body piercing and tattoos.

Symptoms

Common first signs of tetanus include muscular stiffness in the jaw (lockjaw) followed by stiffness of the neck, difficulty in swallowing, rigidity of abdominal muscles, generalized spasms, sweating and fever.

Prevention

Vaccination is the only way to protect against tetanus. A booster shot is recommended every 10 years. If you get a bad cut or burn, see your doctor because you might need a booster shot.



FACT:

Tetanus can be prevented with a safe and effective vaccine.

FACT:

Tetanus is caused by a toxin produced by a type of bacteria found worldwide in soil, dust and manure.

FACT:

Recovery from tetanus illness may not result in immunity. People recovering from tetanus should be immunized soon after their condition has stabilized.

FACT:

Tetanus is not transmitted from one person to another; vaccination provides protection of the vaccinated individual only.

FACT:

You can not get tetanus from the vaccine.