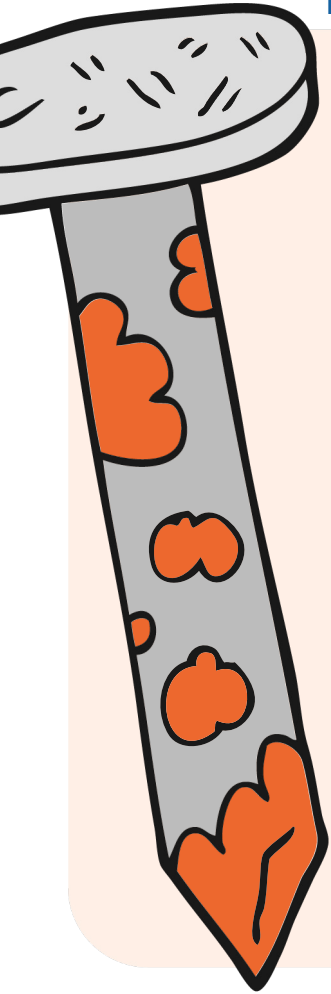


Tetanus



SCAN
ME

TETANUS



Tetanus is an infection caused by bacteria that produces a toxin. Another name for tetanus is “lockjaw.”

It often causes a person’s neck and jaw muscles to lock, making it hard to open the mouth or swallow. In severe cases, it can cause death.

TRANSMISSION (SPREAD)

The bacteria enter the body through open wounds or breaks in the skin, usually through injuries. This can happen through puncture wounds (wounds caused by an object, like a nail, that breaks the skin). Tetanus does not spread from person to person.

SYMPTOMS

- Jaw cramping
- Sudden, involuntary muscle spasms
- Painful muscle stiffness
- Seizures
- Trouble swallowing
- Headache
- Fever
- Sweating
- Changes in blood pressure and heart rate

PREVENTION

The vaccines used to prevent tetanus are DTaP and Tdap. They also prevent diphtheria and pertussis (whooping cough).



98% of people are protected against tetanus once fully vaccinated.

Protection lasts for 10 years.



Schedule a DTaP or Tdap vaccine with your provider today!



**CONNECT WITH A COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**CALL: 1 (866) 358-2966 OPTION 5
EMAIL: PHS-IZPHN.HHSA@SDCOUNTY.CA.GOV**

