

Date: Friday, February 05, 2021

To: Central Zone:

Acute Care Pharmacies; Area Directors; Emergency and Urgent Care Staff; Emergency Medical Services; Environmental Public Health; Midwives; Executive Directors; Infection Prevention Control; Nurse Practitioners; Family, Pediatric, and Emergency Department Physicians; Provincial Communicable Disease Control – Immunizations; Provincial Notifiable Diseases; Public Health Nursing; Red Deer Directors; University of Alberta Rural Family Medicine Program; Workplace Health and Safety

From: Dr. Digby Horne, Medical Officer of Health, Central Zone

Subject: Revised Guide to Wound Tetanus Prophylaxis

The revised [Guide to Wound Tetanus Prophylaxis in Emergency Departments \(EDs\) Central Zone](#) is posted on the Central Zone Medical Officer of Health website: www.ahs.ca/czmoh (see *Resources* tab).

Please be advised that the following changes to this document have been made:

- a) dTap (diphtheria, tetanus, and acellular pertussis) vaccine has now replaced Td (tetanus, diphtheria) as the vaccine provided for the prevention of tetanus in wound management in children 7 years or older and adults. The reason for this change is to help increase pertussis immunity in adults.
- b) The use of Tetanus immune globulin (TIG) in tetanus prophylaxis as part of wound management no longer requires approval from Public Health.

The document provides information on:

- Indications for the use of tetanus-containing vaccines and TIG in wound management.
- Vaccine/immunoglobulin administration and patient information.
- Acute care hospital locations of TIG in Central Zone.
- Contact information concerning questions about vaccine/immunoglobulin use and how to obtain TIG if not available at a specific Acute Care site.
- Recording of vaccine/immunoglobulins provided to patients.

Thank you for your attention and assistance.