

**Tetanus bacteria are found in soil, manure, soil dust, contaminated nails, wire, scissors, razors, and agricultural tools.**

Spores of the bacterium enter the body through cuts/wounds on the hands, feet, AND umbilical cord, etc. The disease develops when spores enter the body and reach the nervous system.

The disease causes severe pain and muscle contractions and can be fatal.

## How to Prevent Tetanus?

Wear protective clothing such as gloves and shoes to prevent possible infections.

If injured during manual work or bitten by an animal while working with soil, wash the affected area with water and soap without delay and visit the nearest healthcare facility.



## How to Prevent Tetanus Disease Before and After Childbirth?

Pregnant women can consult their family physicians, Migrant Health Centers, Foreigners' Polyclinics (where MHCs are not available), and Community Health Centers for tetanus vaccination.

Women aged 45 to 49 must receive a minimum of three doses of tetanus vaccine.

## Tetanus is preventable with timely vaccination

- Births must take place in hospital settings.
- Pregnant women should be vaccinated against tetanus to prevent neonatal tetanus deaths (in the first 28 days).

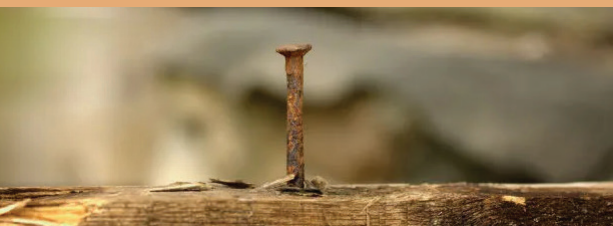
The first dose should be administered after the fourth month of pregnancy.

The second should be administered one month before or after birth at the latest.

The third dose should be administered 6 months after birth.

The fourth dose should be administered one year after the third dose regardless of pregnancy status.

The fifth dose should be administered one year after the fourth dose regardless of pregnancy status.



Tetanus vaccine is administered as a quadrivalent mixed vaccine (DTaP-IPV-Hib) at 2, 4, 6 months and 18 months.

At 48 months, a booster dose of quadrivalent mixed vaccine (DTaP-IPV) is administered.

At the age of 13 (156<sup>th</sup> month), a booster dose of adult diphtheria - tetanus (Td) vaccine is administered.

Vaccination cards should be stored safely and produced to healthcare personnel when requested.

## Tetanus can be fatal for mothers and infants.



## The most effective method to prevent tetanus is to be **FULLY VACCINATED**

Tetanus vaccination is available at Migrant Health Centers **free of charge**

*This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the Republic of Türkiye Ministry of Health and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.*

**RIGHT PLACE, QUALITY SERVICES**

Contact the nearest **Migrant Health Centre** for more information and support



[www.sihhatproject.org](http://www.sihhatproject.org)



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# TETANUS IS A VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASE

