

Tetanus Review

Vaccine doses	Clean and minor wound		All other wounds	
	Vaccine	Immune globulin	Vaccine	Immune globulin
<3 or unknown	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
≥3	Only if last dose ≥ 10 years ago	No	Only if last dose ≥ 5 years ago	No

Preferred vaccine preparation:

- <7 years: DTaP
- Under-immunized children ≥7 and <11 years who have not received TDaP previously: TDaP
- ≥11 years: TDaP

Irrigation

- Use minimum ~100 mL of solution per 1 cm of wound length (may need more if grossly contaminated)

Topical Lidocaine

LET lidocaine (4%)-epinephrine (0.1%)-tetracaine (0.5%)

1–3 mL applied to open wound for 20–30 min

Gel can be painted on, duration of action is 45–60 min

Use with caution in children <1 month

EMLA lidocaine (2.5%)-prilocaine (2.5%)

Use ONLY on INTACT skin

Synera self-heating lidocaine and tetracaine patch

Use ONLY on INTACT skin

Injectable Anesthesia

Lidocaine 1% max 4.5 mg/kg = 0.45 mL/kg of 1%

- 27 gauge needle (off TB syringe & in procedure cart)
- Inject through edges of the wound when the wound is not contaminated
- Less pain if injected slowly and buffered with 1 mEq NaHCO_3^- /10 mL 1% lidocaine

Lidocaine with epinephrine max 7 mg/kg = 0.7 mL/kg of 1%

- Do NOT order for appendages (fingers, nose, ear, penis) unless a consulting service (i.e., Plastics) requests it

Anxiolytics

- Midazolam (Versed): oral, sublingual, intranasal
0.25–0.5 mg/kg PO or SL, max 20 mg
0.2–0.3 mg/kg IN, max 10 mg
- Lorazepam (Ativan): oral
<12 years: 0.05 mg/kg, max 2 mg q4–8h
≥12 years: 0.25–2 mg, max 2 mg BID–TID

Tissue Adhesive

- Remember to use LET prior to irrigation
- Apply in thin layer with a 5 mm overlap on each side
- 1–2 layers applied with 30 seconds between
- DO NOT use antibiotic or white petroleum ointments

Sutures

Suture Types						
Non-absorbable			Absorbable			
Monofilament		Braided	Monofilament			Braided
Ethilon	Prolene	Silk	Fast-absorbing gut	Plain gut	Chromic gut	Vicryl

Non-absorbable Sutures					
	Typical uses	Knot security	Tensile strength	Tissue reactivity	Workability
Ethilon	Skin	Good	Good	Least	Good
Prolene (blue)	Skin, dark hair	Least	Good	Fair	Fair

Absorbable Sutures					
	Typical uses	Knot security	Tensile strength	Security (d)	Tissue Reactivity
Fast-absorbing gut	Face	Poor	Least	4–6	Most
Plain gut	Fingers	Poor	Fair	5–7	Most
Chromic gut	Deep, mouth, tongue, nail bed	Fair	Fair	10–14	Most
Vicryl	Deep, nail bed, mouth	Good	Good	30	Minimal

Suture Size

- 3.0 or 4.0: Back, scalp, palms, soles
- 4.0 or 5.0: Trunk, extremities
- 5.0 or 6.0: Face

Must SPLINT if sutures involve skin over any joints (e.g., fingers, knee)

Timing of Suture Removal

- Face: 5 days
- Scalp: 7–10 days
- Arms: 7–10 days
- Trunk: 10–14 days
- Legs: 10–14 days
- Hands or feet: 10–14 days
- Palms or soles: 14–21 days

Consider Steri-Strips to maintain tensile strength after suture removal