

TETANUS

a.k.a. LOCKJAW

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CAUSE

Clostridium tetani

bacteria & its toxin



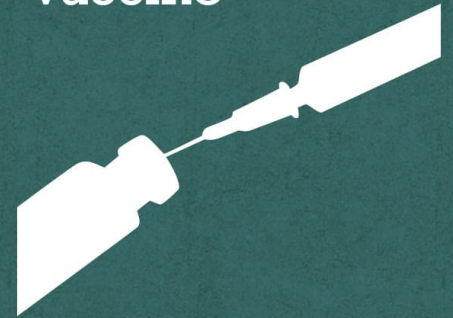
SYMPTOMS

muscle spasms in:
jaw, face, throat,
chest, neck,
back, abdomen,
buttocks

fever
trouble swallowing
rapid heart rate
incontinence

PREVENTION

DTaP vaccine or
tetanus toxoid
vaccine



COMPLICATIONS

prolonged muscle
contractions and
muscle tears



fractures



suffocation



heart attack



death



EPIDEMIOLOGY

bacteria in **soil** enter **flesh** via a
wound from **contaminated object**

10%
mortality even with treatment

70%-100%
mortality in **neonatal** tetanus,
can strike newborns of **unvaccinated**
mothers, due to nonsterile umbilical care

500-600
annual U.S. tetanus cases prior to vaccine

19
U.S. tetanus cases in 2009—nearly all had
allowed their inoculations to lapse