

FactSheet

Para Su Información

Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis (Tdap vaccine)

The Tdap vaccine is recommended to protect adolescents and adults against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis.

Tetanus (lockjaw)

Tetanus is a disease of the nervous system caused by bacteria in the environment. The bacteria enter the body through cuts, scratches and wounds.

Symptoms

- Early symptoms: Lockjaw, stiffness in the neck and abdomen, difficulty swallowing
- Later symptoms: severe muscle spasms, generalized seizure-like activity, severe autonomic nervous system disorders

Complications

May cause paralysis. Death in about 10-20 percent of cases.

Diphtheria

Diphtheria is a highly contagious respiratory disease caused by bacteria and spread person to person (by coughing and sneezing).

Symptoms

- Gradual onset of a sore throat and low grade fever

Complications

May cause airway obstruction, coma and even death.

Pertussis (whooping cough)

Pertussis is a highly contagious respiratory disease caused by bacteria and spread person to person (by coughing and sneezing).

Symptoms

- First stage: Runny nose, sneezing, low-grade fever and cough, which may worsen after 1-2 weeks.
- Second stage: Uncontrollable coughing spells followed by a whooping noise when a person inhales. Vomiting and oxygen deprivation may occur during coughing spells.

Complications

Bacterial pneumonia and rib fracture.

For more information about any of these diseases or the vaccine

Contact the Workplace Vaccination Program at (702) 759-0878 or WPV@snhdmail.org; or visit www.SouthernNevadaHealthDistrict.org.



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