

# Cognizance about Tetanus among University Students

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Submitted: 31 Jan 2019; Accepted: 08 Feb 2019; Published: 18 Feb 2019

### Abstract

This project was conducted in order to create awareness about the tetanus among students of Bahauddin Zakariya University. About 77 students took part in this research. Tetanus a bacterial disease which cause serious health complication including nervous spasm and certain muscular complications. This disease also known as lock jaw is not common among the developed countries. But certain cases of it are found in the developing and underdeveloped countries. For the purpose of research a questionnaire was designed and result shows a clear awareness of this disease among the students.

**Keywords:** Tetanus, Lock Jaw, Vaccination

### Introduction

Tetanus, a bacterial disorder is caused by bacteria Clostridium tetani, whose spores are found in the soil, on the roads having animal feces. The spores of this bacteria enter the body through the deep wounds caused by accidents and other serious injuries which happen on the roads. When the spores enter in the wounds they cause the production of the bacteria which causes the formation of certain toxic chemicals such as tetanospasmin. This chemical causes the impairment of the nerves like motor nerves which are responsible for the control of our muscular movements. This causes spasm [1, 2].

If treatment is not performed timely then it can be life threatening. It can be easily transferred to the other parts of the body with the passage of time. Shots are available which are given to the patients within 12 hours after the injury. It can be prevented by taking vaccines such as DTaP which provides protection against this disease.

It may cause serious complications. The spasm may cause spine injury, embolism of lungs, and if remain untreated it can even cause death due to the respiratory paralysis. Its symptoms include difficulty in swallowing, stiffening of the abdominal muscles and spasm which is really painful.

### Material and Method

A questioner was prepared in order to get the idea about the awareness about tetanus. About 77 students took part in this project of mine. 62 girls and 15 boys were the part of this research of mine. I distributed the questioner among the students and got the results which are given as under.

### Results and Discussion

A questioner was prepared in order to get the idea about the awareness of this disease [3-10]. It includes questions like whether tetanus is a bacterial disease or not, either any of the relatives, friends suffered from this disease or not, mode of transmission of this disease, and methods of treatments of this disease.

From this research I get to know that tetanus is a well-known bacterial disease. Not much people suffer from this disease. Many are already vaccinated or they get tetanus shots if they get any serious injury. People are well aware of its side effects and get themselves safe from this disease. The details of my project with results are given as under.

The results show that about 4% girls and 7% boy said that it is a viral disease while remaining said that it is not. About 98% girls and 99% boys are in the favor of tetanus being a bacterial disease. 12% girls and 13% boys said that it is a fungal disease. 10% girls said that it is a genetic disease while 13% girls and 26% boys agreed on it to be a metabolic disease.

**Table 1: Questionnaire in order to get idea about the awareness of the tetanus**

	Female	Male	Female	Male
	Yes	Yes	NO	No
1.Tetanus is a viral disease	2	1	60	14
2.Tetanus ia a bacterial disease	61	14	1	0
3.Tetanus is a fungal disease	8	2	54	13
4. Tetanus is a Genetic disease	6	0	56	15
5.Tetanus is a metabolic disease	7	5	54	10

From the research I got to know that this disease is rare among the people. Very few people suffered from this disease.

**Table 2: Questionnaire to evaluate idea about the prevalence of Tetanus**

	Female	Male	Female	Male
	Yes	Yes	NO	No
Ever suffered from Tetanus				
1.you	2	1	60	14
2.Any of your family member	5	1	57	14
3.Any of your relative	8	4	54	11
4. Any of your neighbor	9	12	53	3
5.Any of your friend	9	0	53	15

People are well aware of the mode of transmission of the tetanus. It is transmitted through contact with the spores of the bacteria *Clostridium tetani*. 99% boys and 61% girls said that it is transmitted by blood transfusion or contact while others agreed on it to be an inherited disease.

**Table 3: Questionnaire in order to get views about the mode of transmission of tetanus**

	Male	Female	Male	Female
	Yes	Yes	No	No
1.By contact or blood transmission	13	38	2	22
2.From parents to their offspring's	0	56	15	6

Recent study was conducted which shows that people are well aware of the fact that tetanus can be treated by medication only few people do not have a clear idea about its treatment.

**Table 4: Questionnaire in order to evaluate views about hope for Tetanus**

	Female	Male	Female	Male
	Yes	Yes	NO	No
Tetanus can be treated				
1.By Medication	15	57	0	5
2.By Surgery	3	8	12	54
3.No need to be treated	0	10	15	52

## Conclusion

It was concluded from the recent study that most of the students are aware of the disease Tetanus, its mode of transmission, nature and cure of this disease. Tetanus is not a well spread disease these days as almost everyone is well aware of the deadly effects of tetanus so they get vaccinated in time.

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