SUMMARY

Tetanus is still a burning problem in our country due to high morbidity and mortality, despite all advances and prophylaxis.

Its incidence was 1.06% of total admissions in M.L.B. Medical College, Hospital, Jhansi from June 1987 to May 1988. The mortality was 8.52% of total hospital deaths.

Maximum incidence was in adults but maximum mortality was in neonates.

This disease is found to be more in males, mostly from lower socio-economic, rural areas. In these patients mortality was quite high.

The farmers, labourers and students more commonly got this disease, due to trauma, and otogenic infection.

The incidence of tetanus neonatorum was highest in rainy season. All the cases were delivered at home by untrained "Ayes". They used unboiled shaving blades in maximum cases for cutting the umblical cord and applied oil and ash on umblical stump.
Majority of patient had lock jaw, dysphagia, and neck rigidity.

Severity of spasms, fever, shorter incubation period, shorter period of onset, lesser duration of symptoms before admission, all are bad prognostic factors.

Due to illiteracy, poverty, poor medical facilities at periphery, majority of patients coming to this hospital were of severe grades.

Intrathecal T.I.G. was significantly effective in comparison to intramuscular T.I.G. in higher grades. Intrathecal T.I.G. is quite safe and superior in all ages. It is economical also as lesser dose 250 - 500 I.U. is required. As the grades increased effectiveness to T.I.G. decreased.

It was observed that higher dose of T.I.G. intrathecally (500 I.U. or more than it) lowered the mortality in comparison to 250 I.U. T.I.G. intrathecally.