

# Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B Vaccines: Be Sure Your Patients Get the Correct Dose

## Answer to a commonly asked question:

It is not necessary to restart the series of hepatitis B or hepatitis A vaccines because of an extended interval between doses.

- 1 Give one 0.5 mL dose to children age 6–11 months who will travel anywhere outside the U.S., except parts of Western Europe, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, or Japan. This dose does not count toward the routine 2-dose series given after the first birthday.
- 2 The 4-month HepB dose may not be needed depending on the brand of vaccine use.
- 3 There are minimum intervals between the doses of Engerix-B and Recombivax HB vaccine. There must be at least 4 weeks between doses #1 and #2, at least 8 weeks between doses #2 and #3, and at least 16 weeks between doses #1 and #3. The final dose in the infant series should not be given earlier than 24 weeks of age.
- 4 For adult dialysis patients, the Engerix-B dose required is 2.0 mL (use the adult formulation) on a schedule of 0, 1, 2, and 6 months. For Recombivax HB, a special formulation for dialysis patients is available. The dose for the dialysis formulation is 1.0 mL and it is given on a schedule of 0, 1, and 6 months. For HEPISAV-B, use the standard dose (0.5 mL) and schedule (2 doses, 1 month apart).
- 5 When using HepB at birth and 3 doses of Pediarix, you will be administering 4 doses of HepB which is recommended by ACIP.

## Sources for all tables

- Prevention of Hepatitis A Through Active or Passive Immunization: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), *MMWR*, May 19, 2006; Vol. 55 (RR-07).
- Prevention of Hepatitis B Virus Infection in the United States: Recommendations of the ACIP, *MMWR*, January 12, 2018; Vol. 67 (RR-1).
- Recommendations of the ACIP for Use of a Hepatitis B Vaccine with a Novel Adjuvant, *MMWR*, April 20, 2018; Vol. 67(No 15):455–8.
- Recommendations of the ACIP for Use of a Hepatitis A Vaccine for Postexposure Prophylaxis and for Preexposure Prophylaxis for International Travel, *MMWR*, November 2, 2018; Vol. 67(No 43):1216–20.

## Hepatitis A vaccines: Recommended dosages and schedules

VACCINE	AGE GROUP	VOLUME	# DOSES	DOSING INTERVALS
<b>Havrix</b> (GlaxoSmithKline)	1 <sup>1</sup> through 18 yrs	0.5 mL	2	0, 6–12 mos
	19 yrs and older	1.0 mL	2	0, 6–12 mos
<b>Vaqt</b> (Merck)	1 <sup>1</sup> through 18 yrs	0.5 mL	2	0, 6–12 mos
	19 yrs and older	1.0 mL	2	0, 6–12 mos

## Hepatitis B vaccines: Recommended dosages and schedules

VACCINE	AGE GROUP	VOLUME	# DOSES	SCHEDULES/DOSING INTERVALS
<b>Engerix-B</b> (GlaxoSmithKline)	0 through 19 yrs	0.5 mL	3	For newborns, give dose #1 within 24 hrs of birth; then at age 1–2 mos, 4 mos <sup>2</sup> , 6–18 mos For older children who did not start HepB series at birth: 0, 1–2, 4–6 mos <sup>3</sup>
	20 yrs and older	1.0 mL <sup>4</sup>	3	0, 1–2, 4–6 mos <sup>3</sup>
<b>Recombivax HB</b> (Merck)	0 through 19 yrs	0.5 mL	3	For newborns, give dose #1 within 24 hrs of birth; then at age 1–2 mos, 4 mos <sup>2</sup> , 6–18 mos For older children who did not start HepB series at birth: 0, 1–2, 4–6 mos <sup>3</sup>
	11 through 15 yrs	1.0 mL	2	0, 4–6 mos
	20 yrs and older	1.0 mL <sup>4</sup>	3	0, 1–2, 4–6 mos <sup>3</sup>
<b>Heplisav-B</b> (Dynavax)	18 yrs and older	0.5 mL <sup>4</sup>	2	0, 1 mo

## Combination vaccines: Recommended dosages and schedules

VACCINE	AGE GROUP	VOLUME	# DOSES	SCHEDULES/DOSING INTERVALS
<b>Pediarix</b> DTaP+HepB+IPV (GlaxoSmithKline)	6 wks through 6 yrs	0.5 mL	3	For newborns, give monovalent hepatitis B vaccine within 24 hrs of birth; then give Pediarix at age 2 mos, 4 mos, 6 mos <sup>5</sup>
<b>Twinrix</b> HepA+HepB (GlaxoSmithKline)	18 yrs and older	1.0 mL	3	0, 1, 6 mos
		1.0 mL	4	0, 7, 21–30 days, 12 mos