



# HEPATITIS B VACCINE (rDNA)

## DESCRIPTION

Hepatitis B vaccine (rDNA) is a non infectious recombinant DNA Hepatitis B vaccine. It contains purified surface antigen of the virus obtained by culturing genetically-engineered *Hansenula polymorpha* yeast cells having the surface antigen gene of the Hepatitis B virus. The Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) expressed in the cells of *Hansenula polymorpha* is purified through several chemical steps and formulated as a suspension of the antigen adsorbent on aluminium hydroxide and thiomersal as preservative. The vaccine does not contain any material of human or animal origin. The vaccine meets the requirements of WHO, when tested by the methods outlined in WHO.D. TRS 978 (2013).

## COMPOSITION

Each dose of 0.5 ml contains :-	Pediatric	Adult
20 mcg of purified Hepatitis B surface antigen	20 mcg	20 mcg
Adsorbent Aluminium hydroxide (Al <sup>+++</sup> )	0.25 mg to 0.40 mg	0.50 mg to 0.80 mg
Preservative: Thiomersal	0.005%	0.005%
Produced in <i>Hansenula polymorpha</i> (yeast)		
Dose: 0.5 ml by intramuscular injection		

## INDICATIONS

- Hepatitis B vaccine is indicated for active immunisation against Hepatitis B infection in subjects considered at risk of exposure to high risk environment.
- Immunisation against hepatitis B is expected in the long term to reduce not only the incidence of this disease, but also its chronic complications such as chronic active hepatitis B and hepatitis B associated cirrhosis and primary hepatocellular carcinoma.
- In areas of low prevalence of hepatitis B, immunisation with Hepatitis B vaccine is recommended for neonates, infants and adolescents as well as for subjects who are, or will be, at increased risk of infection such as:
  - Health Care Personnel.
  - Persons receiving frequent blood products.
  - Persons at increased risk due to their sexual behaviour.
  - Illicit users of addictive or injectable drugs.
  - Travellers to areas with a high endemicity of HBV.
  - Infants born of mothers who are HBV carriers.
  - Persons undergoing immunosuppressive therapy.
  - Persons whose blood may be exposed to blood products, aimed for cases perinatal and asymptomatic and through their work or household contacts of any of the above groups of patients with acute or chronic HBV infection.
- Persons at high prevalence or high prevalence of hepatitis B, with most of the population at risk of acquiring the disease, immunisation should be offered to all neonates and young children. Immunisation should also be considered for adolescents and young adults.
- The vaccine can be safely and effectively given simultaneously but at different injection sites with DTP, DT, TT, BCG, measles, polio vaccine (OPV and IPV), yellow fever vaccine and vitamin A supplementation. It should not be mixed in the vial or syringe with any other vaccine unless it is manufactured as a combined product (e.g. DTP-HepB).

## CONTRA-INDICATIONS

Hepatitis B vaccine should not be administered to subjects with known hypersensitivity to any component of the vaccine, or to subjects having shown signs of hypersensitivity after previous Hepatitis B vaccine administration.

## WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

As with all vaccines, the vaccine may not prevent hepatitis B infection in such cases. The vaccine will not prevent infection caused by other agents such as hepatitis A, hepatitis C and hepatitis E and other pathogens known to infect the liver. The immune response to Hepatitis B vaccines is related to age. In general, people over 40 years of age respond less well. In haemodialysis patients and persons with an impaired immune system, adequate anti-HBs antibody titres may not be obtained after the primary immunisation course and such patients may therefore require administration of additional doses of vaccine (see Dosage recommendation for immunocompromised persons). As with all injectable vaccines, appropriate medication (e.g. adrenaline) should always be readily available for treatment in case of rare anaphylactic reactions following the administration of the vaccine. Hepatitis B vaccine should not be administered in the gluteal muscle or intradermally since this may result in a lower immune response. Hepatitis B vaccine may be used to complete a primary immunisation course started either with plasma-derived or with other genetically-engineered hepatitis B vaccines, or as a booster dose in subjects who have previously received a primary immunisation course with plasma-derived or with other genetically-engineered hepatitis B vaccine.

## ADVERSE REACTIONS

The undesirable events are temporally related to the administration of Hepatitis B vaccine. They are usually mild and confined to the first few days of the vaccination. The most common reactions are mild soreness, erythema, induration, fatigue, fever, malaise, influenza-like symptoms. Less common systemic reactions include nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, abnormal liver function tests, arthralgia, myalgia, rash, pruritus, urticaria.

## DOSEAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Pediatric dose vaccine: 0.5 ml dose (10 mcg dose) is recommended for neonates, infants, children and adolescents upto 19 years of age.

Adult dose vaccine: 0.5 ml dose (20 mcg dose) is recommended for adults aged 20 years and above.

## IMMUNISATION SCHEDULE

Primary immunisation: 4 series of three intramuscular injections is required to achieve optimal protection. The following immunisation schedule can be recommended:
 

- 6, 10-14 weeks for infants.
- 0, 1, 6 months.
- 0, 1, 2 months (rapid schedule).

 The immunisation schedule should be adapted to meet local immunisation recommendations.

## BOOSTER DOSE

The need for the booster dose in healthy individuals who have received the full primary immunisation, is not recommended. It would be most advisable to recommend a booster dose when anti-HBs antibody titre (at below 10 IU/L) for all people at risk and especially for patients who are immunocompromised (if infected patients) or those on haemodialysis.

## SPECIAL DOSAGE RECOMMENDATIONS

**DOSEAGE RECOMMENDATION FOR NEONATES BORN OF MOTHERS WHO ARE HBV CARRIERS.**  
 The 0, 1, 2 month immunisation schedule is recommended, and should start at birth. Concurrent administration of Hepatitis B immunoglobulin is recommended, but when Hepatitis B immunoglobulin is given simultaneously with Hepatitis B vaccine a separate injection site must be chosen.

## DOSEAGE RECOMMENDATION FOR HIGH-RISK OR PRESUMED EXPOSURE OF HBV

In circumstances where exposure to HBV has recently occurred (eg needle-stick with contaminated needles) the first dose of Hepatitis B vaccine can be administered simultaneously with Hepatitis B immunoglobulin which however must be given at a separate injection site. The rapid immunisation schedule should be advised.

## DOSEAGE RECOMMENDATION FOR IMMUNOCOMPROMISED PERSONS:

The primary immunisation schedule for chronic haemodialysis patients or persons who have an impaired immune system is four doses of 0.5 ml at 0, 1, 2 and 6 months from the date of first dose. The immunisation schedule should be adapted in order to ensure that the anti-HBs antibody titre remains above the accepted protective level of 10 IU/L.

## METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION

Hepatitis B vaccine (rDNA) should be injected intramuscularly in the deltoid region in adults and children or in anterolateral thigh in neonates, infants and young children. The vaccine may be administered subcutaneously in patients with thrombocytopenia or bleeding disorders. The vaccine should be well shaken before use. Only sterile needle and syringes should be used for each injection. Once opened, multi-dose vials should be kept between +2°C and +8°C. Multi-dose vials of Hepatitis B from which one or more doses of vaccine have been removed during an immunisation session may be used in subsequent immunisation sessions for up to a maximum of 4 weeks, provided that all of the following conditions are met:
 

- The expiry date has not passed.
- The vaccines are stored under appropriate cold chain conditions.
- The vaccine vial septum has not been withdrawn in water.
- Aseptic technique has been used to withdraw all doses.

The vaccine vial monitor (VVM), if attached, has not reached the discard point (see figure).

The vaccine should be visually inspected for any foreign particulate matter and / or variation of physical aspect prior to administration. In event of either being observed, discard the vaccine.

## IMMUNE DEFICIENCY

Individuals infected with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), both asymptomatic and symptomatic, should be immunized with Hepatitis B vaccine according to standard schedules.

## STORAGE

Hepatitis B vaccine (rDNA) should be stored at 2-8°C. Do not freeze. Discard if vaccine has been frozen.

## SHELF LIFE

Thirty six months from the date of manufacture.

## PRESENTATIONS

- 0.5 ml - Single dose ampoule (Paediatric).
- 0.5 ml - Single dose vial (Paediatric).
- 5 ml - 10 doses vial (Paediatric).
- 1 ml - Single dose ampoule (Adult).
- 1 ml - Single dose vial (Adult).
- 10 ml - 10 doses vial (Adult).

## THE VACCINE VIAL MONITOR (Optional)

Use the vaccine vial monitor (VVM) as a visual indicator of the vaccine's stability. If the expiry date has not passed, the inner square is lighter than outer circle. If the expiry date has not passed, the inner square is lighter than outer circle. If the expiry date has not passed, the inner square is lighter than outer circle.

## DISCARD POINT

At a later time, inner square still lighter than outer circle. If the expiry date has not passed, the inner square matches colour of outer circle.

## DO NOT USE THE VACCINE

Inner square matches colour of outer circle.

## DO NOT USE THE VACCINE

Inner square darker than outer ring.

## DO NOT USE THE VACCINE

Inner square matches colour of outer circle.

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# VACUNA DE LA HEPATITIS B (rADN)

La vacuna de la Hepatitis B (rADN) es una vacuna recombinante de ADN no infecciosa. Contiene el antígeno superficial purificado del virus obtenido por el cultivo de células genéticamente manipuladas de la levadura *Hansenula polymorpha*, que contienen el gen del antígeno superficial del virus de la Hepatitis B. El antígeno superficial de la Hepatitis B (HBsAg) manifestado en las células de *Hansenula polymorpha* se purifica por varios pasos químicos y se lo formula en forma de suspensión del antígeno adsorbido en partículas de aluminio, con la adición de thiomersal como preservativo. La vacuna no contiene ningún material de origen humano o animal. La vacuna cumple con los requisitos de la O.M.S. cuando se la comprueba según los métodos descritos en la O.M.S., TRS 978 (2013).

## COMPOSICIÓN

Cada dosis de 0.5 ml contiene:
 

- 20 mcg de antígeno superficial purificado de la Hepatitis B
- Adsorbente de Hidróxido de Aluminio (Al<sup>+++</sup>) 0.25 mg a 0.40 mg
- Preservativo: Thiomersal 0.005%
- Producido en *Hansenula polymorpha* (levadura)
- Dosis: 0.5 ml por inyección intramuscular

## Adultos

Cada dosis de 1 ml contiene:
 

- 20 mcg de antígeno superficial purificado de la Hepatitis B
- Adsorbente de Hidróxido de Aluminio (Al<sup>+++</sup>) 0.50 mg a 0.80 mg
- Preservativo: Thiomersal 0.005%
- Producido en *Hansenula polymorpha* (levadura)
- Dosis: 1 ml por inyección intramuscular

## INDICACIONES

La vacuna de la Hepatitis B está indicada en la inmunización activa contra la infección de la Hepatitis B en personas que corren riesgo de exposición a material VHB positivo. Se considera que la inmunización contra la Hepatitis B, a largo plazo, notablemente reduce la incidencia de la enfermedad, y también las complicaciones crónicas de ella. Tales como la hepatitis B activa tipo crónica, la cirrosis asociada a la Hepatitis B y la carcinoma primario hepatocelular.

- En zonas de baja incidencia de la Hepatitis B, se recomienda la inmunización de neonatos, niños, bebés y adolescentes con la vacuna de la Hepatitis B así como de personas que corren riesgo o que sean susceptibles al riesgo aumentado de infección tales como:
  - Personal de Asistencia Sanitaria.
  - Personas que reciben procedimientos quirúrgicos frecuentemente.
  - Personas y residentes de instituciones.
  - Personas que viven en zonas con alta endemicidad de VHB.
  - Personas que viajan a zonas con alta endemicidad de VHB.
  - Bebés nacidos a madres que son portadoras de VHB.
  - Personas que provienen de zonas con alta endemicidad de VHB.
  - Órganos, tejidos, productos, inyectivos y cualquier otra persona que este a riesgo de exposición.
  - Personas con cualquier de los grupos sexuales y con pacientes con infección crónica o aguda de la infección VHB.

En zonas de alta o intermedia prevalencia de la Hepatitis B, en que la mayor parte de la población esta con riesgo de contraer la enfermedad, la inmunización debe hacerse en todos los recién nacidos y niños. Debe considerarse también la inmunización en adolescentes y adultos jóvenes. La vacuna puede ser administrada con seguridad y eficacia, simultáneamente, pero en diferentes sitios de inyección, con DTP, DT, Tetraceno, Polio vacuna (OPV and IPV), yellow fever vaccine and vitamin A suplementation. It should not be mixed in the vial or syringe with any other vaccine unless it is manufactured as a combined product (e.g. DTP-HepB).

## CONTRAINDICACIONES

La vacuna de la Hepatitis B no debe administrarse en personas con hipersensibilidad establecida a cualquier componente de la vacuna, o en personas que manifestaron la hipersensibilidad después de una aplicación previa de la vacuna de la Hepatitis B.

## ADVERTENCIAS Y PRECAUCIONES

Debido al período en que la infección de la Hepatitis B esta en un estado latente, es posible que este presente una infección no detectada en el momento de la inmunización. En tales casos es posible que la vacuna no prevenga la infección de Hepatitis B. La vacuna no protege contra la infección causada por virus-apéndice como la Hepatitis A, Hepatitis C, la Hepatitis E y la Hepatitis G. La vacuna de la Hepatitis B está ligada a la edad. En general, personas de edad mayor a los cuarenta años no responden tan bien a la vacuna. En pacientes de hemodiálisis y personas con un sistema inmune comprometido, puede ser que no se obtengan títulos satisfactorios de anticuerpos anti-HBs después del curso primario de inmunización y tales pacientes pueden por lo tanto necesitar la administración de dosis adicionales de la vacuna. Ver Recomendaciones para la inmunización en personas inmunocomprometidas.

Como para todos los vacunos inyectables, siempre debe tenerse disponibles medicamentos apropiados (por ejemplo penicilina) para el tratamiento en el evento de raras reacciones anafilácticas. Después de la administración de la vacuna, la vacuna de la Hepatitis B puede ser usada para acabar un curso de inmunización primaria que se empieza con vacunas de Hepatitis B derivadas del plasma o genéticamente recombinadas como dosis de refuerzo en individuos que han recibido un curso de inmunización primaria con vacunas de la Hepatitis B derivadas del plasma o con otras vacunas genéticamente recombinadas.

## REACCIONES ADVERSAS

Los eventos indeseables que ocurren están temporalmente relacionados con la administración de la vacuna Hepatitis B. Estos son normalmente leves y se refieren a los primeros días de la vacunación. Las reacciones más comunes son el enrojecimiento de la zona e irritación de la inyección, eritema, induración, fatiga, fiebre, malestar y otras reacciones sistémicas menos comunes incluyen: náuseas, vómitos, diarrea, color abdominal, pruritus aumentado de la piel, urticaria, mialgia, artralgia, erupción, prurito, urticaria.



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