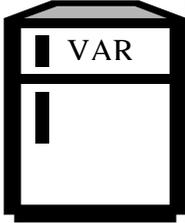


A Quick Look at Using Varicella Vaccine (Var)

<p>Indications for Use and Schedule</p> <p><u>Routine Schedule:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 2 dose series given at/after age 12 months and 4-6 years · Catch up all persons without evidence of immunity* to chickenpox disease <p><u>Make sure minimum age and minimum intervals are met:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Minimum age for dose 1 is 12 months of age · Minimum intervals between doses vary by age: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children 12 mo-12 yr: 3 months between dose 1 & 2 Persons 13 yr & older: 4 weeks between dose 1 & 2 <p><u>"Live/Live Vaccine Rule":</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Var, MMR and/or LAIV must be given on the same day or separated by 28 days; · If not, vaccine(s) given 2nd must be repeated in 28 days 	<p>Vaccine Administration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Subcutaneous (SC) injection in the upper arm or the outer aspect of the thigh · 5/8 inch needle; 23-25 gauge (all ages) · Can be given with other vaccines, at the same visit (Use separate sites; space at least 1 inch apart) <hr/> <p>Storage and Handling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Store in the freezer only -58°F to +5°F (-50°C to -15°C) · Keep in the original box · Protect from light · Reconstitute using the Merck diluent only · Administer within 30 min of reconstituting <div data-bbox="1318 453 1503 676" data-label="Image">  </div>
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*EVIDENCE OF IMMUNITY

- Documentation of age-appropriate vaccination
 - Preschool-aged children 12 mo of age or older: one dose
 - School-aged children, adolescents and adults: two doses
- Lab evidence of immunity or lab confirmation of disease
- A healthcare provider's (nurse, NP, physician, PA):
 - Diagnosis of varicella disease or
 - Verification of history of typical varicella disease
- History of herpes zoster (shingles) based on healthcare provider diagnosis
- Born in the U.S. before 1980 (Unless pregnant or Health Care Personnel)

CONTRAINDICATIONS

- An anaphylactic reaction to a prior dose of a varicella-containing vaccine
- An anaphylactic reaction to a component of varicella vaccine including gelatin or neomycin
- Pregnant or planning on becoming pregnant in the next 4 weeks (inform girls/women in child-bearing years)
- Persons with immunosuppression due to leukemia, lymphoma, generalized malignancy, immune deficiency disease or immunosuppressive therapy (i.e. chemotherapy, certain medications)

PRECAUTIONS

- Moderate to severe acute illness
 - Receipt of blood or a blood product within the last year (wait time varies by the type of blood/product administered)
- For further information refer to: http://www.aimtoolkit.org/children_providerinfo.htm

FURTHER POINTS

- Varicella-containing vaccines will be shipped directly from Merck with frozen gel packs that are good for up to 72 hours
- Do not transport varicella-containing vaccines on dry ice (-109°F); a type of portable freezer unit must be used
- To best protect susceptible pregnant women and persons with immunosuppression, vaccine should be offered to all household members and close contacts who do not have evidence of immunity* and have no contraindication to vaccination
- Breastfeeding is not a contraindication to varicella vaccination in either the mom or the infant
- There is a Varicella Vaccine Information Statement (VIS), including information about the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR); VISs are available at www.michigan.gov/immunize or your local health department.
- Document as "Var" in MCIR, on the vaccine administration record, and immunization record card

Publicly purchased varicella vaccine can be administered to eligible children 12 months through 18 years of age through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program in public clinics and private providers' offices. Eligible children include those who are uninsured, underinsured, Medicaid eligible, Native American or Alaskan Natives. Contact your local health department for more information

For additional information, refer to VFC Program Resolutions or "Prevention of Varicella, Recommendations of the ACIP" at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs> and "Health Care Personnel Vaccination Recommendations" at www.michigan.gov/immunize
Updates of this form will be posted at www.michigan.gov/immunize