

A Quick Look at Using Hep A/Hep B (Twinrix®)

Indications for Use and Schedule

Approved for:

- Routine schedule of 3 doses; 0, 1, 6 months
- Persons with indications for both hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccines
- Alternate schedule of 4 doses; 0, 7, 21-30 days and a booster dose 12 months after the first dose

Each dose of Twinrix contains:

- One adult dose of hepatitis B vaccine
- One pediatric dose of hepatitis A vaccine

Make sure minimum age and minimum intervals are met:

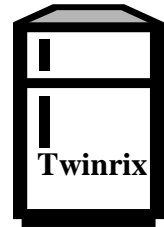
- Minimum age for any dose is 18 years
- Minimum intervals for 3-dose schedule:
 - 4 weeks between dose 1 & 2
 - 5 months between dose 2 & 3

Vaccine Administration

- Intramuscular (IM) injection in the deltoid of the arm
- 1-1.5 inch needle; 22-25 gauge
- Professional judgment is appropriate when selecting needle length
- Can be given with other vaccines, at the same visit (use separate sites; space at least 1 inch apart)

Storage and Handling

- Store in the refrigerator between 35°-46° F (2°-8°C)
- Do NOT freeze
- Keep in the original box
- Shake well before using



CONTRAINDICATIONS

- An anaphylactic reaction to a prior dose of Twinrix, hepatitis A or hepatitis B vaccine
- An anaphylactic reaction to a component of Twinrix (hep A/hep B) including yeast and neomycin

PRECAUTIONS

- Moderate to severe acute illness

FURTHER POINTS

- Because the hepatitis B component of Twinrix® is equivalent to a standard adult dose of hep B vaccine, the schedule is the same whether Twinrix® or single-antigen hep B vaccine is used
- Because the hepatitis A component of Twinrix® is equivalent to a pediatric dose of hep A vaccine, persons 19 years and older who receive only 1 or 2 doses of Twinrix ® will need additional adult doses of single-antigen hep A vaccine

Completing hepatitis A and hepatitis B series with single-antigen hep A, hep B and/or Twinrix®

Any combination of 3 doses of adult hepatitis B or 3 doses of Twinrix = a complete series of hepatitis B

1 dose of Twinrix® + 2 doses of adult hepatitis A = a complete series of hepatitis A

2 doses of Twinrix® + 1 dose of adult hepatitis A = a complete series of hepatitis A

- There is not a separate Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) for Twinrix®. Use the current VISs for hep A and hep B that include information about the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR).
- VISs with MCIR information are available at www.michigan.gov/immunize or at your local health department.
- Document as "Hep A/Hep B" in MCIR, on the vaccine administration record & immunization record card

Publicly purchased hep A/hep B (Twinrix®) and single-antigen hep A and hep B vaccines are available for persons at high risk for hepatitis A or hepatitis B virus infection when served at local health department or select sites. Eligible adults 19 years and older include those who are uninsured or underinsured. Adults who are Medicaid-eligible and meet high risk criteria for hep A or hep B may receive privately purchased single-antigen vaccines or Twinrix; bill Medicaid for the vaccine & administration fee. Medicare part B & D will cover privately purchased hep A or hep B under certain circumstances—see policies. For persons 18 years and younger, publicly purchased vaccines (excluding Twinrix®) are available in private provider offices under the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. Eligible children are those with Medicaid, underinsured, uninsured, or Native American or Alaskan Natives. Contact your local health department for more information on these programs.

For additional information, refer to the ACIP Recommendations on the use of Hep A and Hep B vaccines, located at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs>