Recommended Doses of Hepatitis B Vaccine

Vaccine	Age Group	Formulation	Dosage		Schedule*
Engerix-B (GlaxoSmithKline)	0-19 years	10 mcg/0.5 mL	0.5 mL	3 doses	Infants: birth, 1-4, 6-18 months or Older children: 0, 1-2, 4-6 months
	20 years & older	20 mcg/1.0 mL	1.0 mL	3 doses	0, 1, 6 months
Recombivax HB (Merck)	0-19 years	5 mcg/0.5 mL	0.5 mL	3 doses	Infants: birth, 1-4, 6-18 months or Older children: 0, 1-2, 4-6 months
	11-15 years	10 mcg/1.0 mL	1.0 mL	2 doses	0, 4-6 months
	20 years & older	10 mcg/1.0 mL	1.0 mL	3 doses	0, 1, 6 months

* The schedule for hepatitis B is flexible but minimal intervals and minimum ages need to be observed. There should be at least 4 weeks between doses #1 and #2 and at least 8 weeks between doses #2 and #3. The minimum interval for the overall series from dose 1 to final dose is 4 months (16 weeks). The birth dose should be given within 12 hours of birth. For infants, the minimum age for the final dose of hepatitis B vaccine is age 24 weeks.

Note: Adults who are immunocompromised or on dialysis require a larger dose of hepatitis B vaccine. The Engerix-B dose required is 40mcg/2.0mL (use the adult 20mcg/mL formulation) on a scheduled of 0,1,2, and 6 months. For Recombivax HB, a special formulation is available. The dose is 40mcg/1.0mL given on a schedule of 0,1, and 6 months.

Combination Vaccines: Use of combination vaccines will result in 4 doses of hepatitis B vaccine, which is acceptable					
Comvax (Merck)	6 weeks thru 4 years	Recombivax HB (5 mcg) combined with PedvaxHib	0.5 mL	3 doses	2, 4, 12-15 months A single antigen hep B dose should be given at birth
Pediarix (GlaxoSmithKline)	6 weeks thru 6 years	Engerix-B (10 mcg), Infanrix (DTaP), and IPV	0.5 mL	3 doses	2, 4, 6 months A single antigen hep B dose should be given at birth
Twinrix (GlaxoSmithKline)	18 years & older	Havrix (720EI.U.) combined with Engerix-B (20 mcg)	1.0 mL	3 doses	0, 1, 6 months or 0, day 7, day 21-30, 12 months

Who should receive hepatitis B vaccination?

- All infants, preferably before hospital discharge at birth. (Additionally, infants born to HBsAg-positive mothers need HBIG within 12 hours of birth.)
- All children and adolescents not previously vaccinated.
- All individuals at risk of HBV infection:
  - Persons with occupational risk
  - Clients or staff of institutions for the developmentally disabled
  - Hemodialysis patients
  - Recipients of certain blood products
  - Household or sexual contacts of persons identified as HBsAg-positive
  - Sexually active homosexual or bisexual males
  - Sexually active heterosexual individuals with associated risk factors (e.g., those with a history of a sexually transmitted disease, a history of sexual activity with more than one partner in the previous six months, or a partner with a history of more than one sexual partner in the previous six months)
  - Injecting drug users
  - Adoptees from countries where HBV infection is endemic
  - International travelers
  - Inmates of long-term correctional facilities
  - First-generation immigrant/refugee children from countries where HBV infection is of high or intermediate endemicity. This includes all countries in Africa, Southeast Asia, Pacific Islands, Asia (including the former Soviet Union), eastern Europe, southern Europe (Greece, Italy, Spain and southern France), the northern part of South America (Brazil, Venezuela, Colombia, Peru, and others), most of the Caribbean Islands, and Central America.

This schedule is based on recommendations of the U.S. Advisory Committee on Immunizations Practices (ACIP) and the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Infectious Disease.

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