

Thimerosal Content in Vaccines

You may have heard that some vaccines contain thimerosal, a preservative that prevents contamination of vaccine. However, all routinely given vaccines, except flu, had or are in the process of having thimerosal removed. Some people believe thimerosal may be related to neurodevelopmental problems in children (and adults). The current body of reliable scientific evidence reviewed by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and national health organizations has found no evidence of this relationship. If you are concerned about thimerosal, discuss this with your doctor and ask them about thimerosal-free vaccines. The following information is offered as a courtesy for persons wishing more information regarding this issue.

Routinely Recommended Childhood Immunizations Given in the United States

Vaccine	Trade Name (Manufacturer)	Thimerosal Concentration (ethyl mercury)	Date Vaccine Became or Will Be Thimerosal Free
Diphtheria, tetanus, acellular pertussis (DTaP)	Infanrix (GlaxoSmithKline - GSK)	None	Never contained more than a trace: reformulated 9/00
	DAPTACEL (Sanofi Pasteur - SP)	None	Never contained thimerosal
	Tripedia (SP)	Trace* ($\leq 0.3 \mu\text{g Hg}/0.5\text{mL dose}$)	Unknown
DTaP-HepB-IPV	Pediarix (GSK)	Trace* ($< 0.0125 \mu\text{g Hg}/0.5\text{mL dose}$)	Will be thimerosal free 2/08
DTaP-Hib	TriHibit (SP)	Trace* ($\leq 0.3 \mu\text{g Hg}/0.5\text{mL dose}$)	Unknown - product no longer available
DTaP-Hib-IPV	Pentacel (SP)	None	Never contained thimerosal
DTaP-IPV	Kinrix (GSK)	None	Never contained thimerosal
DT	No Trade Name (SP)	Trace* ($< 0.00012\%$ single dose)	Unknown
Pneumococcal conjugate (PCV)	Prevnar (Wyeth - W)	None	Never contained thimerosal
Inactivated poliovirus (IPV)	IPOL (SP)	None	Never contained thimerosal
Varicella (chickenpox)	Varivax (Merck - M)	None	Never contained thimerosal
Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)	MMR-II (M)	None	Never contained thimerosal
Measles, mumps, rubella-varicella (MMRV)	ProQuad (M)	None	Never contained thimerosal
Hepatitis A	Havrix (GSK)	None	Never contained thimerosal
	Vaqta (M)	None	Never contained thimerosal
Hepatitis B	Recombivax HB (M)	None	Became thimerosal free 8/99
	Engerix B (GSK)	None	Became thimerosal free 9/09
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b conjugate (Hib)	ActHIB (SP)/OmniHIB (GSK)	None	Never contained thimerosal
	PedvaxHIB (M)	None	Became thimerosal free 8/99
	HibTITER, single dose (W)	None	Never contained thimerosal - product no longer available
	Hiberix (GSK)	None	Never contained thimerosal
Hib/Hepatitis B	Comvax (M)	None	Never contained thimerosal
Human Papillomavirus (HPV)	Gardasil (M)	None	Never contained thimerosal
Human Papillomavirus (HPV)	Cervarix (GSK)	None	Never contained thimerosal



Vaccine	Trade Name (Manufacturer)	Thimerosal Concentration (ethyl mercury)	Date Vaccine Became or Will Be Thimerosal Free
Influenza, inactivated	Afluria (CSL) – multi dose	0.01% (12.5 µg/0.25 mL dose, 25 µg/0.5 mL dose)**	Unknown
	Afluria (CSL) – 0.5 ml	None	Never contained
	Fluzone (SP) – multi dose	0.01% (12.5 µg/0.25 mL dose, 25 µg/0.5 mL dose)**	Unknown
	Fluzone (SP) – 0.25 mL	None	Never
	Fluzone (SP) – 0.5 mL	None	Never
	Flulaval (GSK) – multi dose	0.01% (25 µg/0.5 mL dose)	Unknown
	Fluarix (GSK) - 0.5 mL	None	Never
	Agriflu (Novartis - Nov) – 0.5 mL	None	Never
	Fluvirin (Nov) multi dose	0.01% (25 µg/0.5 mL dose)	Unknown
	Fluvirin (Nov) (Preservative Free) – 0.5 mL	Trace* (<1µg Hg/0.5mL dose)	Unknown
Influenza, live virus	FluMist (MedImmune)	None	Never contained thimerosal
Meningococcal conjugate	Menactra A, C, Y and W-135 (SP)	None	Never contained thimerosal
	MENVEO (Nov)	None	Never contained thimerosal
Rotavirus	Rotavix (GSK)	None	Never contained thimerosal
	Rotateq (M)	None	Never contained thimerosal
Tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap) for persons 7 years and older	Adacel (SP)	None	Never contained thimerosal
	Boostrix (GSK)	None	Never contained thimerosal
Tetanus, diphtheria (Td) for persons 7 years and older	DECAVAC (SP)	Trace (≤ 0.00012% (≤ 0.3 µg mercury/0.5 ml dose)	Unknown
	Td generic (Mass Biologics Lab)	Trace (≤ 0.00012% (≤ 0.3 µg mercury/0.5 ml dose)	Unknown

*The term “trace” has been taken in this context to mean 1 microgram of mercury per dose or less. For more information on thimerosal and vaccines, see MDH’s fact, titled “Thimerosal and Childhood Vaccines: What You Should Know” at www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/immunize/safety/thimerosal.html.

** Children 6 months old to less than 3 years of age receive a half-dose of vaccine, i.e., 0.25 mL; children 3 years of age and older receive 0.5 mL.

Source: Adapted from chart found at the FDA website: www.fda.gov/cber/vaccine/thimerosal.htm#t1