

Havrix[®] and Vaqta[®]

Vaccines*	Recommended Age	Dosages/Administration	
		Children & Adolescents	Adults
Havrix[®] (GlaxoSmith Kline)	12 months of age and older	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 1st dose - single 0.5 mL dose – IM ✓ 2nd dose – 0.5 mL 6-12 months after 1st dose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 1st dose - single 1.0 mL dose – IM ✓ 2nd dose – 1.0 mL 6-12 months after first dose
Vaqta[®] (Merck)	12 months of age and older	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 1st dose - single 0.5 mL dose – intramuscular ✓ 2nd dose – 0.5 mL 6-18 months after 1st dose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 1st dose - single 1.5 mL dose – intramuscular ✓ 2nd dose – 1.5 mL 6-18 months after 1st dose



*Completion of the hepatitis A series with the same product is preferable. However, if the originally used product is not available or not known, vaccination with either product is acceptable.

Hepatitis A Vaccine Recommendations

General Recommendations:

- All children between their first and second birthdays (12-23 months of age).
- Anyone 1 year of age and older traveling to or working in countries with high or intermediate prevalence of hepatitis A, such as those located in Central or South America, Mexico, Asia (except Japan), Africa, and eastern Europe.
- Children and adolescents 2 through 18 years of age who live in states or communities where routine vaccination has been implemented because of high disease incidence.
- Men who have sex with men (MSM).
- People who use street drugs.
- People with chronic liver disease.
- People who are treated with clotting factor concentrates.
- People who work with HAV-infected primates or who work with HAV in research laboratories.
- Members of households planning to adopt a child, or care for a newly arriving adopted child, from a country where hepatitis A is common.

Contraindications

- Severe allergy (e.g., anaphylactic reaction) to vaccine components.
- Allergy to neomycin.
- Acute, moderate or severe illness with or without fever until illness has improved or resolved.

Precautions

- Pregnancy; the safety of hepatitis A vaccination during pregnancy has not been determined. However, because hepatitis A vaccine is produced from inactivated HAV, the theoretical risk to the developing fetus is expected to be low. The risk associated with vaccination should be weighed against the risk for hepatitis A in women who may be at high risk for exposure to HAV.
- Use caution when administering to individuals with latex allergies.

Special Situations for Hepatitis A Vaccination:

- Unvaccinated children or adolescents in communities where outbreaks of hepatitis A are occurring.
- Unvaccinated people who have been exposed to hepatitis A virus.
- Anyone 1 year of age or older who wants protection from hepatitis A.

Recommendation for Use of Hepatitis A Vaccine for Post-Exposure Prophylaxis:

- Persons who recently have been exposed to hepatitis A virus and who previously have not received hepatitis A vaccine should be administered a single dose of single antigen vaccine or immune globulin (IG) (0.02 mL/kg) as soon as possible.
- Decisions to use vaccine or IG should be based on patient characteristics associated with more severe manifestations of hepatitis A, including age and chronic liver disease.

Selected Special Categories:

- IG should be used in healthy persons younger than 12 months of age, immunocompromised persons, persons who have been diagnosed with chronic liver disease and persons for whom vaccine is contraindicated.
- For healthy persons aged 12 months through 18 years, hepatitis A vaccine at the age appropriate dose is preferred to IG because of vaccine's advantages, including long-term protection and ease of administration.
- Persons administered IG for whom hepatitis A vaccine is also recommended should receive a dose of vaccine simultaneously with IG. For persons who receive vaccine, the second dose should be administered according to the licensed schedule to complete the series. The efficacy of IG or vaccine when administered >2 weeks after exposure has not been established.

Adverse Reactions

- **Local:** injection site pain, tenderness, soreness
- **Systemic:** headache, malaise, fatigue, low-grade fever



Vaccine Storage & Handling

- Vaccine should be stored in the refrigerator between 35 and 46°F. Aim for 40°F.
- If vaccine is exposed to out of range temperatures (above 46°F or below 35°F) do not use.