

INFANRIX HEXA[®] or VAXELIS[®]

Diphtheria-tetanus-acellular pertussis (dtpa), hepatitis b, poliovirus and haemophilus influenza type b vaccine

Read in conjunction with [Disclaimer](#)


Formulary: Unrestricted	
Presentation	<p><u>Infanrix Hexa[®]</u> 2 components that must be combined prior to administration Prefilled syringe: contains DTPa-hepB-IPV component as 0.5 mL of turbid white suspension. Vial: contains Hib component as a white lyophilised pellet</p>
	<p><u>Vaxelis[®]</u> Ready to use pre-filled syringe.</p>
Classification	DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib — diphtheria-tetanus-acellular pertussis-hepatitis B-inactivated poliovirus-Haemophilus influenzae type b combination vaccine.
Indication	<p>Used as part of the Western Australian Immunisation Schedule for infants at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 weeks of age*, and; • 4 months of age, and; • 6 months of age. <p>*6-week vaccinations can be delayed to 8 weeks of age if medically unwell.</p> <p>NOTE: Parent/Guardian consent is to be obtained prior to administration of all vaccinations.</p>
Special Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contraindicated in patients with serious allergic reactions after a previous vaccine dose or to a component of the vaccine, including yeast, neomycin and polymyxin B. • Contraindicated in infants who develop encephalopathy within 7 days following any DTP vaccination – consult immunology for further advice.
Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infants receiving immunisations are to have a full set of observations taken prior to immunisation and then continue full observations with feeds for 48 hours post immunisation. • Monitor temperature – Do not give during febrile illness or acute infection.
Compatibility	The vaccine should not be combined with any fluids or other vaccinations prior to administration.
Interactions	<p>Infanrix Hexa[®] or Vaxelis[®] can be co-administered with other scheduled vaccines. Ensure a different injection site is used.</p>
Side Effects	<p>Common: Pain, swelling and redness at injection site. A nodule may be present at the injection site for a few weeks.</p>
	<p>Infrequent: Headache, fever, lethargy, malaise, myalgia.</p>
	<p>Rare: Anaphylaxis, urticaria and peripheral neuropathy.</p>

Storage & Stability

Refrigerate at 2 to 8°C, do not freeze.

Note for Infanrix Hexa®: Upon storage, a white deposit and clear supernatant can be observed in the prefilled syringe, this is a normal observation.


INTRAMUSCULAR INJECTION

Presentation	<p>Infanrix Hexa® 2 components that must be combined prior to administration. Prefilled syringe: contains DTPa-hepB-IPV component as 0.5 mL of turbid white suspension. Vial: contains Hib component as a white lyophilised pellet.</p> <hr/> <p>Vaxelis® Ready to use pre-filled syringe.</p>
Dosage	<p>Intramuscular: 0.5 mL</p>
Preparation	<p>Infanrix Hexa®</p> <div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">  NOTE: both components must be combined prior to administration. </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspect the contents of the syringe and the pellet for discolouration. If discoloured, discard vaccine. • Shake the suspension in the syringe well until it is evenly mixed. • Remove the syringe cap and add a Luer Lock needle. • Add the entire contents of the syringe to the vial containing the lyophilised pellet. • Shake until pellet is completely dissolved. <hr/> <p>Vaxelis® Ready to use pre-filled syringe.</p>
Administration	<p>Infanrix Hexa®: Intramuscular injection ONLY.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw up the entire reconstituted vial volume (0.5 mL). Inject immediately after reconstitution. • Inject by intramuscular injection as per the Medication Administration Guideline. <hr/> <p>Vaxelis® Intramuscular injection ONLY.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gently shake the pre-filled syringe to obtain a homogenous, whitish, cloudy suspension. • Inject the entire contents of the pre-filled syringe by intramuscular injection as per the Medication Administration Guideline.
Comments	<p>Infanrix Hexa®:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A white deposit and clear supernatant can be observed in the prefilled syringe, this is a normal observation. • The Infanrix Hexa® reconstituted vaccine may be kept up to 8 hours at room temperature.

Related Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines

Clinical Practice Guidelines:

[CAHS Neonatology – Immunisations](#)

Pharmaceutical and Medicines Management Guidelines:

[CAHS Neonatology – Medication Administration Guideline](#)

[WNHS Cold Chain Management for Medications and Vaccines](#)

[CAHS Medication Refrigerators and Freezers](#)

References

Australian Medicines Handbook. Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccines. In: Australian Medicines Handbook [Internet]. Adelaide (South Australia): Australian Medicines Handbook; 2024 [cited 2024 Oct 23]. Available from: <https://amhonline.amh.net.au/>



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