



DR IAN HAY LTD CONSULTING PAEDIATRICIANS

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PATIENT INFORMATION SHEET: MENINGITIS B VACCINE

BEXSERO (manufactured by Novartis)

Bexsero protects against four different components from the surface of bacteria known as *Neisseria Meningitidis group B* – These bacteria can cause serious and sometimes life-threatening infections such as meningitis and sepsis

Bexsero can be given from 2 months

Bexsero can be given at the same time as any of the following vaccine components: diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough (pertussis), Hib, polio, hepatitis B, pneumococcus (Prevenar), MMR, chickenpox

Vaccines must be given at separate injection sites

Infants 2 months to 5 months of age

Initial course of 3 injections required, followed by a 4th injection (booster)

1st at 2 months

2nd at 3 months

3rd at 4 months

Interval between the above injections should be at least 1 month

4th (booster) between 12-15 months of age (not given later than 24 months)

Infants 6 months to 11 months of age

Unvaccinated infants 6 months to 11 months of age should receive 2 injections followed by a 3rd injection (booster)

Interval between the injections should be at least 2 months

3rd injection (booster) will be given in 2nd year of life after an interval of at least 2 months from the 2nd

Children 12 months to 23 months of age

Children aged 12 months to 23 months should receive 2 injections followed by a 3rd (booster)

Interval between the injections should be at least 2 months

3rd injection (booster) will be given after an interval of 12 to 23 months from the 2nd injection

Children 2 years to 10 years of age

Children 2 years to 10 years of age should receive 2 injections

Interval between the injections should be at least 2 months

Adolescents (from 11 years of age) and adults

Adolescents (from 11 years of age) and adults should receive 2 injections

Interval between each injection should be at least 1 month

Possible side effects:

Very Common (these may affect more than 1 in 10 people)

- Fever (>38°C)
- Loss of appetite
- Tenderness or discomfort at the injection site (including severe injection site tenderness resulting in crying when injected limb is moved)
- Skin rash (children aged 12 to 23 months) though uncommon after booster
- Sleepiness
- Feeling irritable
- Unusual crying
- Vomiting
- Diarrhoea

Common (these may affect up to 1 in 10 people)

- Skin rash (infants and children 2 to 10 years)

Uncommon (these may affect up to 1 in 100 people)

- High fever (>40°C)
- Seizures (including febrile seizures)
- Vomiting
- Dry skin
- Paleness (rare after booster)

Rare (these may affect more up to 1 in 1,000 people)

- Kawasaki disease which may include symptoms such as fever that lasts for more than 5 days, associated with skin rash on the trunk of the body, and sometimes followed by a peeling of the skin on the hands and fingers, swollen glands in the neck, red eyes, lips, throat and tongue
- Itchy rash, skin rash

Adolescents (from 11 years of age) and adults

Very Common (these may affect more than 1 in 10 people)

- Pain at the injection site resulting in inability to perform normal daily activity
- Painful muscles and joints#
- Nausea
- Generally feeling unwell
- Headache