

Change in Product Quadracel to Adacel-polio

Questions and Answers for Health Care Providers

Effective May 2012, Adacel[®]-Polio vaccine (Tdap-IPV) will replace Quadracel[®] vaccine (DTaP-IPV) for the pre-school booster dose (5th dose only) for immunization against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis and polio.

Q: Why is Quadracel[®] (DTaP-IPV) being replaced with Adacel[®]-Polio (Tdap-IPV)?

- There is currently a shortage of Quadracel[®] (DTaP-IPV) from the supplier.
- Adacel[®]-Polio vaccine (Tdap-IPV) is also indicated for booster immunization for the prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis and polio in individuals 4 years of age and older.
- Adacel[®]-Polio vaccine (Tdap-IPV) has been approved by Health Canada as a safe and effective alternative to the 5th dose of DTaP-IPV.
- Adacel[®]-Polio vaccine (Tdap-IPV) is associated with fewer adverse events (large injection site reactions) than Quadracel[®] vaccine (DTaP-IPV).

Q: What is the difference between Quadracel[®] (DTaP-IPV) and Adacel[®]-Polio (Tdap-IPV)?

- Quadracel[®] (DTaP-IPV) and Adacel[®]-Polio (Tdap-IPV) both protect against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis and polio. Quadracel[®] (DTaP-IPV) contains higher concentrations of diphtheria toxoid and pertussis antigens than Adacel[®]-Polio (Tdap-IPV).

Q: Given that the Adacel[®]-Polio vaccine (Tdap-IPV) has a lower concentration of diphtheria and pertussis antigens compared to Quadracel[®] (DTaP-IPV), is there a concern regarding immunogenicity and /or duration of protection?

- Experience with Tdap-IPV in the United Kingdom and Quebec have not been associated with resurgence of disease. The United Kingdom has been using Tdap-IPV as a 4-6 year old booster since 2004 and Quebec since April 2011.

Q: Which brand of Tdap-IPV will be available and when will the switch occur?

- As of May 1, 2012 Adacel[®]-Polio is being distributed.

Q: What product should I administer to catch-up unimmunized children under 7 years of age who require their primary series of vaccine for protection against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis and polio?

- Children < 7 years of age, not immunized in early infancy, should receive three doses of Pediacel® (DTaP-IPV /Hib) with an interval of 2 months between doses; followed by a fourth dose administered 6-12 months after the third. It is acceptable to give additional doses of Hib for convenience of administration in combination with DTaP - Polio.
- Adacel®-Polio (Tdap-IPV) is given for the 5th dose only, if indicated.

For important information prior to administering the vaccine refer to the product monograph OR search by product name in Health Canada's Drug Product Database.

Adacel®-Polio product monograph: www.vaccineshoppecanada.com/document.cfm?file=adacel-polio_e.pdf

www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/prodpharma/databasdon/index-eng.php