

ROTATEQ VACCINE Information Sheet for Vaccine Providers (live, oral, pentavalent rotavirus vaccine, Merck Canada Inc.)	
Eligibility criteria for publicly funded rotavirus vaccine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infants born in 2017 and later that meet age requirements (i.e., the 1st dose must be given before 15 weeks; the series has to be completed before 8 months of age) are eligible to receive publicly funded oral rotavirus vaccine. • NOTE: Starting May 1 2018, infants who have not received a dose of rotavirus vaccine and meet the age requirements should receive the new product RotaTeq.
Dosage, packaging, storage and stability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral suspension (2.0 mL) in a squeezable tube format. • Store in a refrigerator (2 °C to 8 °C). Do not freeze. • Store in original packaging to protect from light. • The expiry date is on the label and packaging. • The container and delivery system are latex-free.
Dosing schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 dose series at 2, 4 & 6 months of age as part of routine immunization schedule. Minimum interval between doses 4 weeks. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>1st dose</u>: minimum age is 6 weeks; maximum age is before 15 weeks - <u>2nd dose</u>: minimum age is 10 weeks - <u>3rd dose</u>: maximum age is before 8 months • NOTE: The two vaccines differ in composition and schedule, the vaccine series should be completed with the same product whenever possible. If any dose in the series was RotaTeq (Rot-5) vaccine, a total of 3 doses of vaccine should be administered. If the first dose was Rotarix and Rotarix is unavailable, complete the schedule with two doses of RotaTeq.
Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ORAL ADMINISTRATION ONLY • Can be given at same time as other routine vaccines. • Can be administered to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Breastfed infants - Infants living in households with pregnant women - Healthy preterm infants • Spit up doses should not be re-administered because safety data unknown • Preferably given prior to other vaccines
Precautions & contraindications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of anaphylaxis after previous administration of the vaccine; or proven immediate or anaphylactic hypersensitivity to any component of the vaccine or its container. • Individuals who are immunocompromised or who are infected with HIV. • History of intussusception. • Uncorrected congenital abdominal disorders (that increase the risk of intussusception). • Severe combined immunodeficiency disorder (SCID). • Diarrhea or vomiting (vaccine should be temporarily delayed). • Infant's mother received immunosuppressive therapy during pregnancy or lactation
Adverse reactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irritability/ fussiness, fever, loss of appetite, vomiting, and diarrhea • Intussusception (small increased risk of 1-7 cases per 100 000 doses administered).

See Vaccination with RotaTeq- Questions & Answers or Product Monograph for Further Details