

Hexavalent vaccines indicator

Service delivery (feasibility)

Number of doses and timing of administrations

There are several schedule options with hexavalent vaccine. The schedule recommendation for hexavalent consists of 3 primary doses, starting as early as 6 weeks of age, with a minimum interval of 4 weeks between doses.

Many countries are following a pentavalent schedule of 3 primary doses at 6, 10 and 14 weeks. In this case, the pentavalent vaccine can be substituted by the hexavalent vaccine at the same age.

Countries that are currently following other pentavalent schedule options, can continue to maintain their schedules if they switch to hexavalent vaccine. Some schedules include, but are not limited to, primary doses given at 8, 12 and 16 weeks (equal to 2, 3 and 4 months of age) or, 8, 16 and 24 weeks (equal to 2, 4 and 6 months of age). In these cases, pentavalent vaccine can be substituted by the hexavalent vaccine at the same age. 1, 2 . For hexavalent vaccines, a 3-dose schedule is adequate when initiated at ≥ 6 weeks of age and with a minimum of 4 weeks interval between doses. 2

Sources

1.

World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF (2024). Frequently asked questions and considerations for the introduction of hexavalent vaccine DTwP-HepB-Hib-IPV in routine immunization programmes (June 2024) [web site]. Hexavalent_FAQs_EN_June 2024.pdf (<https://www.technet-21.org/en/resources/guidance/frequently-asked-questions-and-considerations-for-the-introduction-of-hexavalent-vaccine-dtwp-hepb-hib-ipv-in-routine-immunization-programmes-june-2024>, accessed 8 July 2025).

2.

Meeting of the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization, March 2025: conclusions and recommendations. Weekly Epidemiological Record. 2022; 100(23): 219–238.