

GRADE Table 2: Hib vaccination schedules: three primary doses versus two primary doses plus one booster dose

PICO Question: Does using three primary doses of Hib have a greater effect on the proportion of recipients with responses above a set immunological threshold than using two primary doses plus one booster dose?				
		Rating	Adjustment to rating	
Quality Assessment	No of studies/starting rating		1 RCT	4
	Factors decreasing confidence	Limitation in study design	serious ¹	-1
		Inconsistency	None serious	0
		Indirectness	None serious	0
		Imprecision	serious ²	-1
		Publication bias	None detected	0
	Factors increasing confidence	Strength of association/ large effect	-	0
		Dose-response	-	0
		Antagonistic /mitigated bias and confounding	-	0
	Final numerical rating of quality of evidence			2
Summary of Findings	Statement on quality of evidence		Our confidence in the estimate of the effect on the health outcome is limited	
	Conclusion		One trial has found that using two primary doses plus a booster dose had a greater effect on the proportion of recipients with immunological responses above a set threshold than using a three primary dose schedule. Further research is needed to confirm whether this is a true effect.	

Six trials measured examined proportion above a set threshold after either 3p or 2p+1 in individual trial arms but only one trial provided a direct comparison.

References:

Adapted from: Scott, P. et al *Haemophilus influenzae* type b conjugate vaccines: a systematic review of data from randomized controlled trials of childhood schedules

Trials graded:

Carlsson, R.M., et al., *Safety and immunogenicity of a combined diphtheria-tetanus-acellular pertussis-inactivated polio vaccine-Haemophilus influenzae type b vaccine administered at 2-4-6-13 or 3-5-12 months of age.* *Pediatr Infect Dis J*, 1998. **17**(11): p. 1026-33. **(Sweden)**

¹ Randomization unclear, participants not blinded

² Only one study-low number of events