

August 2, 2017

Change in Rotavirus vaccine packaging

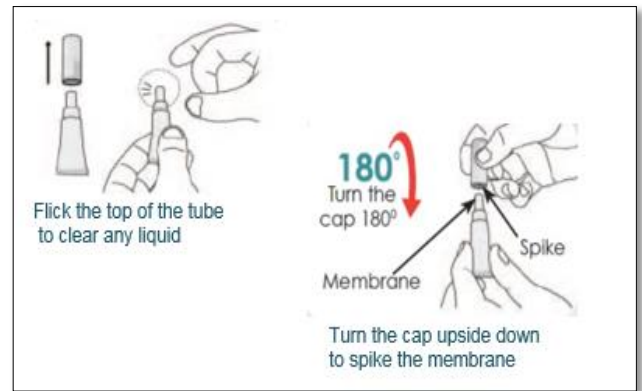
Rotavirus vaccine (Rotarix[®]) is now packaged in a squeezable tube, with 10 tubes per package. The previous Rotarix[®] package was in an oral applicator with 5 doses per package. Each tube has 1.5 mL of the oral suspension, live, attenuated, oral vaccine, similar to the previous packaging.

Orders will automatically be changed to account for the new packaging: **1 package = 10 doses**

Use the new #2203-64E order form available at www.forms.ssb.gov.on.ca.

Opening the tube

- the squeezable tube (LDPE) is fitted with a membrane and a cap (polypropylene)
- pull off the cap; keep the cap to pierce the membrane
- hold the tube upright, flicking the top until it is clear of any liquid
- press the cap down to pierce the membrane
- do not twist; then lift off the cap



Vaccine administration

- the vaccine is given orally, straight from the tube
- position the child, leaning slightly backwards, while being held by the caregiver
- squeeze the liquid gently into the side of the child's mouth, towards the inside of their cheek
- you may squeeze the tube a few times to get all the vaccine out
- dispose of the oral tube in a biological waste container do not re-administer the vaccine, if the child spits-up



The vaccine should be protected from light and stored between 2°C to 8°C. Do not freeze.

For more information, visit *WHO* website; Canadian Immunization Guide or GSK Rotarix[®] product monograph.