

June 20, 2019

Interim Use of Engerix-B® Vaccine for Renal Dialysis Patients

Due to a global shortage of Recombivax HB® Dialysis vaccine, two doses of Engerix-B® vaccine will be used as an interim replacement for renal dialysis patients. This vaccine shortage may continue into early 2020.

2-doses of Engerix-B® vaccine:

- Equals 1 dose of Recombivax HB® Dialysis adult
- Doses should be given as separate injections at separate sites
- Requires a **4 dose series**
- Will be auto-substituted if Recombivax HB® Dialysis vaccine is ordered

Engerix-B® vaccine is 1.0mL per vial and contains 20µg /mL of HB antigen.

Recombivax HB® Dialysis vaccine is 1.0mL per vial and contains 40µg /mL of HB antigen.

Completion of HB vaccine series with Engerix-B® vaccine for renal patients

Number of Recombivax HB® Dialysis Doses Received	Completing the HB series with (double dose) Engerix-B® using a 4-dose series, as recommended by NACI compared to a 3-dose series by Recombivax HB® Dialysis
0 doses received	0, 1, 2 and 6 months
1 dose received	1, 2 and 6 months
2 doses received	2 and 6 months

Ontario's Public Funded Immunization Schedule, funds the 2nd, 3rd and 4th vaccine series for dialysis patients who receive Engerix-B®. Given that a double-dose of Engerix-B® is required for one dose of Recombivax HB® Dialysis adult formulation, the **Ministry will fund up to six doses of Engerix-B® vaccine per patient.**

For renal dialysis patients, less than 20 years of age, please consult the Canadian Immunization Guide and the vaccine product monograph for dosage and scheduling recommendations.

The Ministry has developed a Q&A on the use of Engerix-B® for renal dialysis patients which is available at: toronto.ca/health/professionals.