ROTARIX VACCINE

POISON SCHEDULE S4

DESCRIPTION
Live attenuated human rotavirus vaccine.

USE

PRESENTATION
Clear colourless ORAL liquid suspension; ready to use with no reconstitution or dilution required.

DOSE
1. The vaccine course consists of 2 doses.
2. Each dose is 1.5ml.
3. The first dose is to be given on or after discharge from the Newborn Care Centre, between 6 weeks and 14 weeks 6 days of chronological age.
4. The second dose should be given by the infant’s general practitioner a minimum of 4 weeks after first dose. Not to be given after 24 weeks of age as its safety has not been assessed in older children.

ADMINISTRATION Oral administration only!
1. NOT TO BE INJECTED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.
2. Administration orally via applicator to inside of cheek with infant in reclined position.
3. Rotarix should be administered only at discharge, or after discharge from the Newborn Care Centre, as viral antigen particles are found in 50% of stools after the first dose, and there is a potential risk of transmission to unvaccinated contacts.

STORAGE
1. Refrigerate at 2 to 8 °C. Do not freeze.
2. Store in original packaging to protect from light.
3. Discard unused portion.

ADVERSE EFFECTS
1. Diarrhoea, appetite loss, irritability and fever have been reported but these symptoms were not increased in treatment versus control groups in large placebo controlled trials.

CONTRAINDICATIONS
1. Chronic gastrointestinal disease including uncorrected congenital gastrointestinal malformations.
2. Acute severe febrile illness.
ROTARIX VACCINE  cont’d

PRECAUTIONS
1. Rotarix administration should be postponed in infants suffering from diarrhoea or vomiting.
2. Rotarix should be administered with caution to infants with close contacts who are immunodeficient.
3. Contacts of vaccines should be advised to wash hands after changing nappies.
4. Vaccination of infants born to immunocompromised women (due to immunosuppressive medication or an underlying immune deficiency condition) should only be undertaken after consultation with the senior medical officer.

COMPATIBILITY
Rotarix may be co-administered with DTPa, Hib, IPV, HBV, pneumococcal conjugate vaccine and meningococcal serogroup C.

INCOMPATIBILITY
An interval of 2 weeks between Rotarix and oral polio vaccine is advised.

REFERENCE
1. MIMS Full Prescribing Information via CIAP October 2014
3. Advisory Committee on Immunisation Practices to the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention.

Risk rating: Low. Review in 2020