
Standing Orders for Administering Comvax Vaccine to Infants

Purpose: To reduce morbidity and mortality of Haemophilus Influenza, type b (Hib) and hepatitis B disease by vaccinating all children and teens who meet the criteria established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).

Policy: Under these standing orders, eligible nurses and other healthcare professionals (e.g., pharmacists), where allowed by state law, may vaccinate children and teens who meet any of the criteria below.

Procedure

1. Identify infant's ages 2 months through 15 months who have already had birth dose of Hepatitis B.
2. Screen all patients for contraindications and precautions to Hib –Hep B:
 - a. **Contraindications:** a history of a serious reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose of Hib-Hep B or to Comvax vaccine component. For information on vaccine components, refer to the manufacturer's package insert (www.immunize.org/package-inserts) or go to www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/downloads/appendices/B/excipient-table-2.pdf.
 - b. **Precautions:**
 - moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever
3. Provide all patients (or, in the case of a minor, parent or legal representative) with a copy of the most current federal Vaccine Information Statement (VIS). You must document in the patient's medical record or office log, the publication date of the VIS and the date it was given to the patient (parent/legal representative). Provide non-English speaking patients with a copy of the VIS in their native language, if available and preferred; these can be found at www.immunize.org/vis.
4. Provide routine vaccination with Comvax at ages 2 months and 6 months with Hib given at 4 months, or 2, 4 and 12-15 months. Administer 0.5 mL intramuscularly in the vastus lateralis for infants. Use a 22–25 g needle. Choose needle length appropriate to the child's age and body mass.
5. Do not use Comvax on infant less than 6 weeks of age, must not be used for doses at birth or 1 month of age for a child on 0, 1, 6 month hepatitis B schedule. Comvax may be used when either antigen is indicated or the other antigen is not contraindicated.
6. Document each patient's vaccine administration information and follow up in the following places:
 - a. **Medical chart:** Record the date the vaccine was administered, the manufacturer and lot number, the vaccination site and route, and the name and title of the person administering the vaccine. If vaccine was not given, record the reason(s) for non-receipt of the vaccine (e.g., medical contraindication, patient refusal).
 - b. **Personal immunization record card:** Record the date of vaccination and the name/location of the administering clinic.
7. Be prepared for management of a medical emergency related to the administration of vaccine by having a written emergency medical protocol available, as well as equipment and medications.
8. Report all adverse reactions to Comvax to the federal Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) at www.vaers.hhs.gov or by calling (800) 822-7967. VAERS report forms are available at www.vaers.hhs.gov.