

Leaflet text for Cholvax™

Inactivated Oral Cholera Vaccine BP

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Presentation

Cholvax™: Each vial contains 1.5 ml Inactivated Oral Cholera Vaccine BP as-

Active ingredients	Quantity
<i>V. cholerae</i> O1 Inaba Phil 6973 El Tor, Formaldehyde Inactivated	600 LEU*
<i>V. cholerae</i> O1 Inaba Cairo 48, Heat Inactivated	300 LEU
<i>V. cholerae</i> O1 Ogawa Cairo 50, Formaldehyde Inactivated	300 LEU
<i>V. cholerae</i> O1 Ogawa Cairo 50, Heat Inactivated	300 LEU
<i>V. cholerae</i> O139 4260B, Formaldehyde Inactivated	600 LEU
Excipients	
Thiomersal	0.15 mg
PBS (Phosphate buffer saline)	q.s to 1.5 ml

Description

Cholvax for oral use, is a turbid, white or brownish suspension free of aggregates and extraneous particles. The vaccine is formulated with required quantity of *V. cholerae* O139 and O1 (serotype-Inaba and Ogawa) inactivated by heat and formaldehyde. Available in 1.5 ml strength.

*LEU= Lipopolysaccharide ELISA Units

Indications and uses

Cholvax is indicated for active immunization against *Vibrio cholerae*. The vaccine can be administered to anyone above the age of 1 year. Data for the safety and efficacy of the vaccine in infants (less than 1 year of age) is not available. The earliest onset of protection can be expected 7-10 days after the completion of the primary series of the vaccine. Efficacy against *Vibrio cholerae* serogroup O139 was not demonstrated.

Dosage and administration

Dose: The recommended dose of the vaccine is 1.5 ml. The primary immunization schedule consists of two doses given at an interval of at least two weeks.

Administration: Cholera vaccine is to be administered orally, should not be administered parenterally (intramuscular, subcutaneous or intravenously). The vaccine is only recommended for oral administration.

Revaccination: Revaccination should be given after 2 years.

Method of administration

The vaccine is presented as a suspension. After vigorous shaking of the vial, 1.5 ml should be poured into the mouth of the recipient. The vaccine administration may be optionally followed by water to facilitate ingestion, if needed.

The vaccine can alternatively be administered with a disposable syringe (without needle) after removing the contents from the vial and squirted into the mouth of the recipient. The vaccine should not be administered parenterally (intramuscular, subcutaneous or intravenously). The vaccine is only recommended for oral administration.

Contraindications

Cholera vaccine should not be administered to subjects with either known hypersensitivity to any component of vaccine, or having shown signs of hypersensitivity after previous administration of the vaccine. Formaldehyde is used during the manufacturing process and trace amounts may be present in the final product. Caution should be taken in subjects with known hypersensitivity to formaldehyde.

As with other vaccines, immunization with the cholera vaccine should be delayed in the presence of any acute illness, including acute gastrointestinal illness or acute febrile illness. A minor illness such as mild upper respiratory tract infection is not a reason to postpone immunization.

Precautions

Vaccination should be provided by a review of the medical history (especially with regard to previous vaccination & possible occurrence of the undesirable events) and a clinical examination. As with any vaccine immunization with the cholera vaccine may not protect 100% susceptible individuals. This vaccine is also not a substitute for therapy in case of individuals suspected to be suffering from cholera or showing signs and symptoms of an acute episode of gastro intestinal disease or acute watery diarrhea.

Immunocompromised persons (subsequent to a disease or immunosuppressive therapy) may not obtain the expected immune response after vaccination with the cholera vaccine. If possible, in the opinion of the medical practitioner, due consideration should be given to postpone vaccination until after the completion of the immunosuppressive treatment.

As with all vaccines, appropriate medical treatment should always be available in case of a rare event of anaphylactic reactions following the administration of the vaccine. For this reason, it is recommended that the vaccinee should remain under medical supervision for at least 30 minutes after vaccination.

Co-administration: Oral cholera vaccine can be administered simultaneously or at any interval before /after administration of most other vaccine except oral Typhoid vaccine.

Use in specific populations

Pregnancy: No specific clinical studies have been performed to evaluate the safety and immunogenicity of cholera vaccine in pregnant women and for the fetus. However, administration of cholera vaccine to pregnant women may be considered after careful evaluation of the benefits and risks in case of a medical emergency or an epidemic.

Lactation: The vaccine should be used with caution for lactating women.

Fertility: No data available regarding fertility

Side-effects

The following adverse events are known to occur with cholera vaccine use. Acute gastroenteritis, diarrhea, fever, vomiting, abdominal pain, itching, rash, nausea, weakness, cough, vertigo, dryness of mouth, oral ulcer (rare), sore throat (rare) and yellowing of urine (rare). It has been observed that the incidence of adverse events is less after the second dose as compared to the first.

Overdose: Not applicable.

Storage

- Keep out of the reach and sight of children.
- Store at +2 °C to +8 °C. Transportation should also be at +2 °C to +8 °C.
- Do not freeze. Discard vaccine if frozen.
- Protect from light.

Commercial pack

Cholvax™: Each box contains 1 vial of inactivated oral cholera vaccine.