NEONATAL Medication Monograph

MENINGOCOCCAL VACCINE GROUP B (Bexsero®)

This document should be read in conjunction with this **DISCLAIMER**

Unrestricted: Any prescriber may initiate treatment as per guideline

For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Infants ONLY

Presentation	Bexsero® pre-filled syringe
Classification	Recombinant multicomponent serogroup B vaccine Immunisation to prevent invasive meningococcal disease(IMD) caused by *Neisseria meningitidis*
Indication	**Prevention of meningococcal disease caused by *Neisseria meningitides* for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander infants** • 6 weeks of age*, and; • 4 months of age, and; • 12 months of age. *6-week vaccinations can be delayed to 8 weeks of age if medically unwell Additional dose at 6 months of age for children with risk conditions for IMD - ***see Notes section*** **NOTE: Parent/Guardian consent is to be obtained prior to administration of all vaccinations.** **Prophylactic Paracetamol:** Paracetamol is recommended with every dose of Bexsero® for prophylaxis of post-immunisation pyrexia in children less than 2 years of age. • The first dose of paracetamol is recommended within 30 minutes before vaccination; or as soon as practicable after administering the vaccination. • This is followed by two further doses of paracetamol given 6 hours apart, regardless of the presence of fever.

Dose	***Do not prescribe unless consent has been confirmed.*** **Intramuscular:** 0.5mL
Monitoring	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander receiving meningococcal B immunisation are to have a full set of observations taken prior to immunisation and then continue full observations with feeds for 48 hours post immunisation. Monitor temperature - Do not give during febrile illness or acute infection.
Guidelines & Resources	CAHS Neonatology Immunisation Guideline West Australian Immunisation Schedule
Compatible Fluids	Do not combine with any fluids or other vaccinations
Preparation	Shake the pre-filled syringe well to form a homogenous suspension. The vaccine should be a white opalescent liquid. Visually inspect for particulate matter or discolouration. Remove protective cap and attach appropriate needle. Any air bubbles present should be expelled by gently tapping the side of the syringe.
Administration	**Intramuscular Injection ONLY** ***Do not administer unless consent has been confirmed.*** Administer the entire volume (0.5 mL) by intramuscular injection (IMI) to the anterolateral aspect of the thigh (slowly to reduce pain). Meningococcal B vaccine can be given at the same time as Meningococcal ACWY vaccine, Infanrix Hexa® and combined DTP/Hib/IPV vaccine.
Adverse Reactions	Fever (>38.5°C) is a common adverse effect in children <2 years of age. Pain or tenderness, swelling, induration and erythema at the injection site, irritability, drowsiness, unusal crying and change in appetite
Storage	Refrigerate – do not freeze
Notes	Meningococcal B vaccines can be co-administered with other scheduled vaccines. If not co-administering; the Meningococcal B vaccine should be given at least 3 days later. Intervals less than 3 days should be authorised by the neonatologist/microbiologist. There should be a minimum interval of 8 weeks between Meningococcal B doses. Please note that children with specified medical conditions that are associated with an increased risk of meningococcal disease usually require additional doses of Meningococcal B vaccine. For more details on recommendations for children at increased risk of IMD, please check the National Immunisation Program

References	Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI). The Australian immunisation handbook 10th edition [Internet]. Canberra: Australian Government Department of Health; 2018 [cited 2020 June 23]. Available from: https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/ Vaccination for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children in The Australian Immunisation Handbook. [Internet] Inforgraphic June 2020 https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/resources/publications/vaccination-for-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-children# MIMS Australia. Bexsero. In: MIMS Online [Internet]. St Leonards (New South Wales): MIMS Australia; 2019 [cited 2020 June 23]. Available from: https://www.mimsonline.com.au Australian National Immunisation Program https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/national-immunisation-program-meningococcal-vaccination-schedule-from-1-july-2020-clinical-advice-for-vaccination-providers

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Standards Applicable:	NSQHS Standards: 1 Governance 3 Infection Control 4 Medication Safety;		

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