PREVENAR 20®

20-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine

Read in conjunction with Disclaimer

Formulary: Unrestricted	
Presentation	**Prefilled syringe:** 0.5 mL
Classification	20vPVC (20-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine)
Indication	Used as part of the Western Australian Immunisation Schedule for infants at: • 6 weeks of age*, and; • 4 months of age. Additional dose at 6 months of age is recommended for: • Preterm infants born less than 28 weeks gestation; • Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander infants; • Patients with Medical Risk Conditions – refer to Australian Immunisation Handbook. *6-week vaccinations can be delayed to 8 weeks of age if medically unwell. **NOTE: Parent/Guardian consent is to be obtained prior to administration of all vaccinations.**
Precautions	Do not give during febrile illness or acute infection.
Monitoring	As per the Immunisation Guideline: • Infants receiving immunisations are to have a full set of observations taken prior to immunisation. • Continuous cardiac monitoring for 48 hours following immunisation.
Incompatibility	The vaccine should not be combined with any fluids or other vaccinations prior to administration.
Interactions	Prevenar® can be co-administered with other scheduled vaccines. Ensure a different injection site is used.
Side Effects	**Very common:** Decreased appetite, irritability, drowsiness/increased sleep, fever (pyrexia), vaccination-site erythema, pain, tenderness and/or swelling.
	Common: Diarrhoea, vomiting, rash, fever greater than 38.9°C.
	Uncommon: Seizures (including febrile seizures), urticaria or urticaria-like rash.
	Frequency unknown: Hypersensitivity/allergic reactions, crying, Hypotonic-hyporesponsive episode, restless sleep.
Storage	Refrigerate at 2 to 8ºC, do not freeze.

INTRAMUSCULAR			
	Presentation	Prefilled syringe	
	Dosage	***Do not prescribe unless consent has been confirmed.*** **Intramuscular:** 0.5 mL	
	Preparation	Ready to use prefilled syringe.	
	Administration	**Intramuscular injection ONLY.** ***Do not administer unless consent has been confirmed.*** • Vigorously shake the pre-filled syringe to obtain a homogenous, white suspension. • Visually inspect the vaccine for large particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration. • Inject the entire contents of the pre-filled syringe by intramuscular injection as per the Medication Administration Guideline.	
	Comment	• Do not use the vaccine if it cannot be re-suspended after shaking. • Do not use the vaccine if large particulate matter or discolouration is found after shaking.	

Related Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines

Clinical Practice Guidelines:

CAHS Neonatology – Immunisations

Pharmaceutical and Medicines Management Guidelines:

CAHS Neonatology – Medication Administration Guideline

WNHS Cold Chain Management for Medications and Vaccines

CAHS Medication Refrigerators and Freezers

References

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Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care. Vaccination for preterm infants [Internet]. Canberra: Australian Government; [updated 2023 Jul 4; cited 2025 Aug 14]. Available from: https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/contents/vaccination-for-special-risk-groups/vaccination-for-preterm-infants

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NSQHS Standards Applicable:	☒ Std 1: Clinical Governance		☒ Std 4: Medication Safety		
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