# **Publications gateway number: GOV-18045**

**Hepatitis B vaccine Renal Patient Group Direction (PGD)**

This PGD is for the administration of Hepatitis B recombinant DNA (rDNA) vaccine (adsorbed) to individuals who are 15 years of age or over and are on haemodialysis, a renal transplantation programme or have chronic renal failure that is likely to require haemodialysis or transplant.

This PGD is for the administration of Hepatitis B (rDNA) vaccine (adsorbed) (Hep B vaccine) by registered healthcare professionals identified in [Section 3](#Section3), subject to any limitations to authorisation detailed in [Section 2](#Section2).

Reference no: Hep B Renal PGD

Version no: v5.00

Valid from: 28 February 2025

Review date: 28 September 2027

Expiry date: 28 February 2028

**The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has developed this PGD to facilitate the delivery of publicly funded immunisation in England in line with national recommendations.**

Those using this PGD must ensure that it is organisationally authorised and signed in Section 2 by an appropriate authorising person, relating to the class of person by whom the product is to be supplied, in accordance with Human Medicines Regulations 2012 (HMR2012)[[1]](#footnote-2). **The PGD is not legal or valid without signed authorisation in accordance with** [**HMR2012 Schedule 16 Part 2**](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/1916/schedule/16/part/2/made)**.**

Authorising organisations must not alter, amend or add to the clinical content of this document (sections 4, 5 and 6); such action will invalidate the clinical sign-off with which it is provided. In addition, authorising organisations must not alter section 3 ‘Characteristics of staff’.

**Sections 2 and 7 can be edited within the designated editable fields provided, but only for the purposes for which these sections are provided, namely the responsibilities and governance arrangements of the NHS organisation using the PGD. The fields in section 2 and 7 cannot be used to alter, amend to or add to the clinical content. Such action will invalidate the UKHSA clinical content authorisation which is provided in accordance with the regulations.**

Operation of this PGD is the responsibility of commissioners and service providers. The final authorised copy of this PGD should be kept by the authorising organisation completing Section 2 for 8 years after the PGD expires if the PGD relates to adults only and for 25 years after the PGD expires if the PGD relates to children only, or adults and children. Provider organisations adopting authorised versions of this PGD should also retain copies for the periods specified above.

**Individual practitioners must be authorised by name, under the current version of this PGD before working according to it.**

Practitioners and organisations must check that they are using the current version of the PGD. Amendments may become necessary prior to the published expiry date. Current versions of UKHSA PGD templates for authorisation can be found from:

[Immunisation patient group direction (PGD) templates](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immunisation-patient-group-direction-pgd)

Any concerns regarding the content of this PGD should be addressed to:

immunisation@ukhsa.gov.uk

Enquiries relating to the availability of organisationally authorised PGDs and subsequent versions of this PGD should be directed to: Insert local contact details such as SIT inbox

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| **Change history** |
| **Version number** | **Change details** | **Date** |
| V1.0 | New Public Health England PGD template | 28 March 2017 |
| V2.0 | Hep B Renal PGD amended to:* include additional healthcare practitioners in Section 3
* include HBvaxPRO®40 temperature excursion stability
* refer to vaccine incident guidelines in off-label and storage sections
* include minor rewording, layout and formatting changes for clarity and consistency with other PHE PGDs
 | 12 March 2019  |
| V3.0 | Hep B PGD Renal amended to:* include ‘best-interests’ decision in accordance with the Mental Capacity Act 2005, for consent
* highlight, once the primary immunisation schedule has been started with Fendrix®, interchanging with other brands of Hep B vaccine is off label.
* reflect changes to ‘The Green Book’ recommendations for booster doses
* include stability data for Engerix B®
* include minor rewording, layout and formatting changes for clarity and consistency with other PHE PGDs and updated references
 | 9 April 2021 |
| V4.0 | Hep B PGD Renal amended to:* include minor rewording of standard text, layout and formatting changes for clarity and consistency with organisation change, gateway requirements and other UKHSA PGDs
* amend NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSEI) to NHSE following completion of merger on 1 July 2022
* reformat Tables 1 and 2 and add a note regarding

Engerix B® being supported for the indication and double dose by the SPC in dose and frequency section.* include facilities for management for anaphylaxis statement in cautions section for consistency
* remove duplication of advising individuals of side effects in the patient advice section
 | 22 March 2023 |
| V5.0 | UKHSA Hep B PGD Renal amended to:* update Page 1 governance requirements for sections 2 and 7
* include minor rewording of standard text, layout and formatting changes for clarity and consistency with organisation change and other UKHSA PGDs
* add pharmacy technicians, dieticians, podiatrists and occupational therapists in Section 3 and update qualifications and professional registration
* update expert panel to include sensitivity to formaldehyde and potassium thiocyanate for HBVAXPRO®40 vaccine in criteria for exclusion
* clarify the serological markers in exclusion criteria
* include off-label use of HBVAXPRO®40 in 16 years and 17 years old and update dose and frequency section accordingly
* provide clarity for the use of other Hep B brands for booster dose following primary immunisation with Fendrix® vaccine in off-label section
* delete the note relating to use of double dose of

Engerix B® 20micrograms not being supported by Green Book (GB)* state the doses to be supplied and administered with clarity for each vaccine in the quantity to be supplied and administered section
* update disposal guidance
* amend low fever to fever and add malaise to adverse reactions
* clarify testing for evidence of infection and immunity inspecial considerations
* include other factors that may reduce the immune response to hepatitis B vaccines in special considerations
* update consent statement in records section
* update references
 | 21 February 2025 |

1. **PGD development**

This PGD has been developed by the following health professionals on behalf of the UKHSA:

|  |  |  |  |
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| **Developed by:** | **Name** | **Signature** | **Date** |
| Pharmacist(Lead Author) | Suki HunjuntLead Pharmacist Immunisation Programmes, UKHSA |  | 24 February 2025 |
| Doctor | Sema MandalMedical Consultant Epidemiologist & Deputy Director,  Blood Safety, Hepatitis, STI and HIV Division, UKHSA,  |  | 24 February 2025 |
| Registered Nurse(Chair of Expert Panel) | David GreenNurse Consultant for Immunisation Programmes, UKHSA |  | 24 February 2025 |

This PGD has been peer reviewed by the UKHSA Immunisations PGD Expert Panel in accordance with the UKHSA PGD Policy. It has been ratified by the UKHSA Medicines Governance Committee.

**Expert Panel**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Nicholas Aigbogun | Consultant in Communicable Disease Control, Yorkshire and Humber Health Protection Team, UKHSA |
| Gayatri Amrithalingam | Consultant Epidemiologist, Immunisation Programmes, UKHSA |
| Jessica Baldasera | Health Protection Practitioner, North East Health Protection TeamRegions Directorate, UKHSA |
| Alison Campbell | Screening and Immunisation Coordinator, Public Health CommissioningNHS England (NHSE) Midlands |
| Jane Freeguard | Deputy Director of Vaccination – Medicines and Pharmacy NHS England |
| Rosie Furner | Advanced Specialist Pharmacist - Medicines Governance, Specialist Pharmacist Services (SPS)  |
| Ed Gardner | Advanced Paramedic Practitioner/Emergency Care Practitioner, Medicines Manager, Proactive Care Lead |
| Shilan Ghafoor | Medicines Governance Lead Pharmacist, UKHSA |
| Greta Hayward | Consultant Midwife – Immunisation Programmes, UKHSA |
| Naveen Dosanjh | Senior Clinical Advisor - Medicines and PharmacyVaccinations Sub-Directorate - NHSE |
| Elizabeth Luckett | Senior Screening and Immunisation Manager, NHSE South West  |
| Briony Mason | Vaccination Manager, Professional Midwifery Advocate, Vaccination and Screening, NHS England, West Midlands |
| Vanessa MacGregor | Consultant in Communicable Disease Control, East Midlands Health Protection Team, UKHSA |
| Lesley McFarlane | Lead Immunisation Nurse Specialist, Immunisation Programmes, UKHSA |
| Tushar Shah | Lead Pharmacy Adviser, NHSE London |

1. **Organisational authorisations**

The PGD is not legally valid until it has had the relevant organisational authorisation.

It is the responsibility of the organisation that has legal authority to authorise the PGD, to ensure that all legal and governance requirements are met. The authorising body accepts governance responsibility for the appropriate use of the PGD.

Insert authorising body name authorises this PGD for use by the services or providers listed below:

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| Authorised for use by the following organisations and/or services |
| For instance, all NHSE commissioned immunisation services or NHS Trusts providing immunisation services.  |
| Limitations to authorisation |
| For instance, any local limitations the authorising organisation feels they need to apply in-line with the way services are commissioned locally. This organisation does not authorise the use of this PGD by ….  |

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| --- |
| Organisational approval (legal requirement) |
| Role | Name  | Sign | Date |
| For instance, NHSE Governance Lead, Medical Director  |   |   |   |

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| Additional signatories according to locally agreed policy |
| Role | Name  | Sign | Date |
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Local enquiries regarding the use of this PGD may be directed to…………….

Section 7 provides a practitioner authorisation sheet. Individual practitioners must be authorised by name to work to this PGD. Alternative practitioner authorisation sheets may be used where appropriate in accordance with local policy, but this should be an individual agreement or a multiple practitioner authorisation sheet as included at the end of this PGD.

#### Characteristics of staff

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| **Qualifications and professional registration**  | All practitioners should only administer vaccination where it is within their clinical scope of practice to do so. Practitioners must also fulfil the [additional requirements](#AdditionalRequirements) and [continued training requirements](#Conttariningrequirement) to ensure their competency is up to date, as outlined in the section below.Registered professional with one of the following bodies:* nurses and midwives currently registered with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC)
* pharmacists and pharmacy technicians currently registered with the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) (Note: this PGD is not relevant to privately provided community pharmacy services)
* paramedics, physiotherapists, dieticians, podiatrists, and occupational therapists currently registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)

The practitioners above must also fulfil the [Additional requirements](#AdditionalRequirements) detailed below. Check [Section 2 Limitations to authorisation](#LimitationsToAutorisation) to confirm whether all practitioners listed above have organisational authorisation to work under this PGD. |
| **Additional requirements** | Additionally, practitioners:* must be authorised by name as an approved practitioner under the current terms of this PGD before working to it
* must have undertaken appropriate training for working under PGDs for supply/administration of medicines
* must be competent in the use of PGDs (see [NICE Competency framework](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/mpg2/resources) for health professionals using PGDs)
* must be familiar with the vaccine product and alert to changes in the Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC), Immunisation Against Infectious Disease (‘[The Green Book](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immunisation-against-infectious-disease-the-green-book)’), and national and local immunisation programmes
* must have undertaken training appropriate to this PGD as required by local policy and in line with the [National Minimum Standards and Core Curriculum for Immunisation Training](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-minimum-standards-and-core-curriculum-for-immunisation-training-for-registered-healthcare-practitioners)
* must be competent to undertake immunisation and to discuss issues related to immunisation
* must be competent in the handling and storage of vaccines, and management of the ‘cold chain’
* must be competent in the intramuscular and subcutaneous injection techniques
* must be competent in the recognition and management of anaphylaxis
* must have access to the PGD and associated online resources
* should fulfil any additional requirements defined by local policy

**The individual practitioner must be authorised by name, under the current version of this PGD before working according to it.** |
| **Continued training requirements**Continued over page**Continued training requirements**(continued) | Practitioners must ensure they are up to date with relevant issues and clinical skills relating to immunisation and management of anaphylaxis, with evidence of appropriate Continued Professional Development (CPD).Practitioners should be constantly alert to any subsequent recommendations from the UKHSA and/or NHSE and other sources of medicines information. Note: The most current national recommendations should be followed but a Patient Specific Direction (PSD) may be required to administer the vaccine in line with updated recommendations that are outside the criteria specified in this PGD. |

1. **Clinical condition or situation to which this PGD applies**

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| **Clinical condition or situation to which this PGD applies** | Indicated for the active immunisation of individuals who are 15 years of age or over and are on haemodialysis, a renal transplantation programme or have chronic renal failure (CKD stage 4 or 5) that is likely to require haemodialysis or transplant in accordance with the recommendations given in [Chapter 7](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immunisation-of-individuals-with-underlying-medical-conditions-the-green-book-chapter-7) and [Chapter 18](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hepatitis-b-the-green-book-chapter-18) of Immunisation Against Infectious Disease: ‘The Green Book’. |
| **Criteria for inclusion** | Individuals who are 15 years of age or over and are on haemodialysis, a renal transplantation programme or have chronic renal failure (CKD stage 4 or 5) that is likely to require haemodialysis or transplant. |
| **Criteria for exclusion[[2]](#footnote-3)** | Individuals for whom valid consent, or a ‘best-interests’ decision, in accordance with the [Mental Capacity Act 2005](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2005/9/contents), has not been obtained.Individuals who:* are under 15 years of age
* have had a confirmed anaphylactic reaction to a previous dose of hepatitis B containing vaccine or to any components of the vaccine. HBVAXPRO®40 micrograms may contain traces of formaldehyde and potassium thiocyanate (see [SPC](https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc#gref))
* are known to have positive serological markers, Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) and hepatitis B core IgM antibody (anti-HBc IgM) indicating current infection or positive Anti-HBcore (hepatitis B core antibody) as a marker of past hepatitis infection
* do not have a renal indication for Hep B vaccination (see [UKHSA Hep B PGD](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hepatitis-b-vaccine-patient-group-direction-template))
* are suffering from acute severe febrile illness (the presence of a minor illness without fever or systemic upset is not a contraindication for immunisation)
 |
| **Cautions including any relevant action to be taken** | Facilities for management of anaphylaxis should be available at all vaccination sites (see [Chapter 8](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vaccine-safety-and-adverse-events-following-immunisation-the-green-book-chapter-8) of the Green Book) and advice issued by the [Resuscitation Council](https://www.resus.org.uk/) UK.Syncope (fainting) can occur following, or even before any vaccination especially in adolescents as a psychogenic response to the needle injection. This can be accompanied by several neurological signs such as transient visual disturbance, paraesthesia and tonic-clonic limb movements during recovery. It is important that procedures are in place to avoid injury from faints.Use caution when vaccinating individuals with severe (such as anaphylactic) allergy to latex. The HBVAXPRO®40 vial stopper contains dry natural latex rubber; use an alternative vaccine if available.The immunogenicity of the vaccine could be reduced in immunosuppressed subjects. Vaccination should proceed in accordance with the national recommendations. However, re-immunisation may need to be considered. Seek medical advice as appropriate. |
| **Action to be taken if the patient is excluded** | Individuals who are under 15 years of age who are on haemodialysis, renal transplantation programmes or with chronic renal failure (CKD stage 4 or 5) that is likely to require haemodialysis or transplant, should be referred for specialist advice on the appropriate vaccination schedule. A PSD is required as vaccination of these individuals is outside the remit of this PGD.Individuals who have had a confirmed anaphylactic reaction to a previous dose of Hep B vaccine or any components of the vaccine should be referred to a clinician for specialist advice and appropriate management. Individuals known to have markers of current (HBsAg) or past (anti-HBcore) hepatitis B infection should be advised that vaccination is not necessary. However, immunisation should not be delayed while awaiting any test results.Individuals who do not have a renal indication for Hep B vaccination should be managed in accordance with the [UKHSA Hep B PGD](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hepatitis-b-vaccine-patient-group-direction-template).Individuals suffering acute severe febrile illness should postpone immunisation until they have recovered; immunisers should advise when the individual can be vaccinated and ensure another appointment is arranged.Seek appropriate advice from the local Screening and Immunisation Team, local Health Protection Team or the individual’s clinician as required.The risk to the individual of not being immunised must be taken into account.Document the reason for exclusion and any action taken in the individual’s clinical records.In a GP practice setting, inform or refer to the GP or a prescriber as appropriate. |
| **Action to be taken if the patient or carer declines treatment** | Informed consent, from the individual or a person legally able to act on the person’s behalf, must be obtained for each administration.Advise the individual/parent/carer about the protective effects of the vaccine, the risks of infection and potential complications.Document the advice given and the decision reached. In a GP practice setting, inform or refer to the GP as appropriate. |
| **Arrangements for referral for medical advice** | As per local policy |

1. **Description of treatment**

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| **Name, strength and formulation of drug** | Hepatitis B recombinant DNA (rDNA) vaccine (adsorbed)\* (Hep B) * Fendrix® 20 micrograms/0.5ml suspension for injection in pre-filled syringe\*
* HBVAXPRO® 40micrograms/1ml suspension for injection in a vial
* Engerix B® 20micrograms/1ml suspension for injection in pre-filled syringe

\*the hepatitis B surface antigen in Fendrix® is adjuvanted by AS04CFor full formulations each vaccine, see the respective [SPCs](https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc#gref) |
| **Legal category** | Prescription only medicine (POM) |
| **Black triangle▼**  | No |
| **Off-label use** | Administration of Fendrix® by deep subcutaneous injection to individuals with a bleeding disorder is off-label administration in line with advice in [Chapter 4](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immunisation-procedures-the-green-book-chapter-4) and [Chapter 18](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hepatitis-b-the-green-book-chapter-18) of ‘The Green Book’. Once the primary immunisation schedule has been started with Fendrix®, interchanging with other brands of Hep B vaccine is off label, but permissible under this PGD. (Note: Following a completed primary schedule with Fendrix®, where a booster dose is required, any brand of Hep B vaccine can be used. See [Dose and frequency below](#Doseandfrequency)).The SPC for HBVAXPRO®40micrograms recommends use of the vaccine in adults. However, the vaccine can be used off-label to administer the vaccine to 16 to 17 years old (included) in accordance with the guidelines from the [UK Kidney Association](https://www.ukkidney.org/sites/default/files/FINAL-BBV-Guideline-June-2019.pdf).Recommendations in ‘The Green Book’ [Chapter 18](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hepatitis-b-the-green-book-chapter-18) allow for concomitant administration of Hep B vaccine with other vaccines at a separate site when required. For Fendrix®, such administration would be off-label as, due to a lack of data, the SPC for Fendrix® advises an interval of 2 to 3 weeks be respected between the administration of Fendrix® and other vaccines.Vaccine should be stored according to the conditions detailed in the [Storage section](#Storage) below. However, in the event of an inadvertent or unavoidable deviation of these conditions refer to [Vaccine Incident Guidance](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vaccine-incident-guidance-responding-to-vaccine-errors). Where vaccine is assessed in accordance with these guidelines as appropriate for continued use this would constitute off-label administration under this PGD.Where a vaccine is recommended off-label consider, as part of the consent process, informing the individual/parent/carer that the vaccine is being offered in accordance with national guidance but that this is outside the product licence.  |
| **Route and method of administration** Continued over page**Route and method of administration**(continued) | Administer by intramuscular injectioninto the deltoid region of the upper arm. The buttock should not be used because vaccine efficacy may be reduced.When administering at the same time as other vaccines, care should be taken to ensure that the appropriate route of injection is used for all the vaccinations. The vaccines should be given at separate sites, preferably in different limbs. If given in the same limb, they should be given at least 2.5cm apart. The site at which each was given should be noted in the individual’s records.For individuals with a bleeding disorder, vaccines normally given by an intramuscular route should be given by deep subcutaneous injection to reduce the risk of bleeding (see ‘The Green Book’ [Chapter 4](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immunisation-procedures-the-green-book-chapter-4)).The vaccine may settle during storage, shake the vaccine well before administration to obtain a slightly opaque (HBVAXPRO®40) or turbid (Fendrix®/ Engerix B®), white suspension.The vaccine should be visually inspected for particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration. In the event of any foreign particulate matter and/or variation of physical aspect being observed, do not administer the vaccine. The vaccine’s SPC provides further guidance on administration and is available from the electronic Medicines Compendium website: [www.medicines.org.uk](http://www.medicines.org.uk)  |
| **Dose and frequency of administration**Continued over page**Dose and frequency of administration**(continued) | Current UK licensed Hep B vaccines contain different concentrations of antigen per millilitre. **Table 1: Current UK licensed Hep B vaccine doses for adolescents and adults with renal insufficiency including dialysis**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Age** | **Vaccine**  | **Dose** | **Volume** |
| Individuals with renal insufficiency (dialysis and pre-dialysis patients) aged 15 years and over  | Fendrix® | 20 micrograms | 0.5ml |
| 16 years and over dialysis and pre-dialysis individuals | HBVAXPRO® | 40 micrograms | 1.0ml |
| Individuals with renal insufficiency and dialysis individuals aged 16 years and over | Engerix B® | 2 x 20 micrograms | 2 x 1.0ml |

**Table 2: Schedule for adolescents and adults with renal insufficiency including dialysis**

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| **Schedule** | **Examples of when to use this schedule** |
| **Fendrix**®**:*** 4 doses at 0 then1, 2 and 6 months after the first dose
 | Use for individuals from 15 years of age. |
| **HBVAXPRO® 40micrograms / 1.0ml:*** 3 doses at 0 then 1 and 6 months after the first dose
 | Use for individuals from 16 years of age. |
| **Engerix B® 20micrograms / 1.0ml:**4 double doses (2 x 20 micrograms) at 0 then 1, 2, 6 months after the first dose | Use for individuals from 16 years of age. |
| **Booster (Fendrix 20micrograms® HBVAXPRO®40micrograms / 1.0ml or Engerix B® 20micrograms / 1.0ml):*** single dose administered if anti-HBs levels fall below 10mIU/ml in an individual who has previously responded to the vaccine (levels should be monitored annually)
* single dose to haemodialysis patients travelling to highly endemic areas if they have not received a booster in the last 12 months
 | Individuals on haemodialysis:From 15 years of age Fendrix® From 16 years of age HBvaxPRO®40 or Engerix B® |

Where immunisation has been delayed beyond the recommended intervals, the vaccine course should be resumed but not repeated.HBVAXPRO®40and Engerix B® may be used interchangeably to complete the vaccine course. Once the primary immunisation schedule has been started with Fendrix®, interchanging with other brands of Hep B vaccine is off label (see [Off-label section](#offlabel)).Administration of HBVAXPRO®40 in 16 years and 17 years old is off-label (see [Off-label section](#offlabel)). |
| **Duration of treatment** | Dependent on vaccine schedule, see [Dose and frequency of administration](#Doseandfrequency). |
| **Quantity to be supplied and administered** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Vaccine**  | **Strength** | **Dose per administration** |
| Fendrix® | 20 micrograms | 0.5ml  |
| HBVAXPRO® | 40 micrograms | 1.0ml |
| Engerix B® | 20 micrograms | 2 x 1.0ml |

see [Dose and frequency of administration](#Doseandfrequency). |
| **Supplies** | Supplies should be ordered directly from manufacturers/wholesalers.Protocols for the ordering, storage and handling of vaccines should be followed to prevent vaccine wastage (see [Protocol for ordering storage and handling of vaccines](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protocol-for-ordering-storing-and-handling-vaccines) and ‘The Green Book’ [Chapter 3](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/storage-distribution-and-disposal-of-vaccines-the-green-book-chapter-3)).  |
| **Storage** | Store at between +2°C to +8°C. Store in original packaging in order to protect from light. Do not freeze. In the event of an unavoidable temperature excursion HBVAXPRO®40can be administered provided total (cumulative multiple excursion) time out of refrigeration (at temperatures between 8°C and 25°C) does not exceed 72 hours. Cumulative multiple excursions between 0°C and 2°C are also permitted as long as the total time between 0°C and 2°C does not exceed 72 hours. Stability data indicate Engerix B® is stable at temperatures up to 37°C for 3 days or up to 25°C for 7 days. These data are intended to guide healthcare professionals in case of temporary temperature excursion only.In the event of an inadvertent or unavoidable deviation of these conditions, vaccine that has been stored outside the conditions stated above should be quarantined and risk assessed for suitability of continued off-label use or appropriate disposal. Refer to [Vaccine Incident Guidance](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vaccine-incident-guidance-responding-to-vaccine-errors). |
| **Disposal** | Equipment used for immunisation, including used vials, ampoules, or discharged vaccines in a syringe or applicator, should be disposed of safely in a UN-approved puncture-resistant ‘sharps’ box, according to local authority arrangements and guidance in the Health Technical Memorandum 07-01: Safe and sustainable management of healthcare waste ([NHSE](https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/management-and-disposal-of-healthcare-waste-htm-07-01/)). |
| **Drug interactions** | Immunological response may be diminished in those receiving immunosuppressive treatment. Vaccination is recommended even if the antibody response may be limited.Hepatitis B-containing vaccines can be given at the same time as other vaccines (see [Chapter 18](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hepatitis-b-the-green-book-chapter-18)). However, when other vaccines are given at the same time as Fendrix®, this is off-label (see [Off-label](#offlabel) section).A detailed list of drug interactions is available in the SPC, which is available from the electronic Medicines Compendium website: [www.medicines.org.uk](http://www.medicines.org.uk)  |
| **Identification and management of adverse reactions** | Local reactions following vaccination are very common such as pain, swelling or redness at the injection site or induration.Fever, fatigue, malaise, drowsiness, headache, irritability, appetite loss and gastrointestinal symptoms (nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, and abdominal pain) have been commonly reported symptoms after Hep B vaccination. Hypersensitivity reactions and anaphylaxis can occur but are very rare.A detailed list of adverse reactions is available in the SPCs, which are available from the electronic Medicines Compendium website: [www.medicines.org.uk](http://www.medicines.org.uk)  |
| **Reporting procedure of adverse reactions** | As with all vaccines, healthcare professionals and individuals/parents/carers are encouraged to report suspected adverse reactions to the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) using the Yellow Card reporting scheme on: [Yellow Card | Making medicines and medical devices safer](https://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/)  or search for MHRA Yellow Card in the Google Play or Apple App Store.Any adverse reaction to a vaccine should be documented in the individual’s record and the individual’s GP should be informed. |
| **Written information to be given to patient or carer** | Offer the marketing authorisation holder's patient information leaflet ([PIL](https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/)) provided with the vaccine. For resources in accessible formats and alternative languages, please visit [Home - Health Publications](https://www.healthpublications.gov.uk/). Where applicable, inform the individual/parent/carer that the PIL with large print, Braille or audio CD can be ordered from the manufacturer (see [electronic medicines compendium](https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc)). |
| **Patient advice and follow up treatment**Continued over page**Patient advice and follow up treatment**(continued) | Inform the individual/parent/carer of possible side effects and their management. The individual/parent/carer should be advised to seek medical advice in the event of an adverse reaction.When administration is postponed advise the individual/parent/carer when to return for vaccination.The individuals /parent/carers should be informed about the importance of completing a course of hepatitis B immunisation.  |
| **Special considerations and additional information** | Ensure there is immediate access to adrenaline (epinephrine) 1 in 1000 injection and access to a telephone at the time of vaccination.**Limitations of Hep B vaccination**Because of the long incubation period of hepatitis B, it is possible for unrecognised infection to be present at the time of immunisation. The vaccine may not prevent hepatitis B infection in such cases. The vaccine will not prevent infection caused by other pathogens known to infect the liver such as hepatitis A, hepatitis C and hepatitis E viruses.As with any vaccine, a protective immune response may not be elicited in all vaccinees (see [Chapter 18](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hepatitis-b-the-green-book-chapter-18) for more detail).**Testing for evidence of infection or immunity**Individuals with kidney failure may have reduced response to the vaccine. Additional vaccine doses may need to be considered for individuals who do not respond or if after the primary vaccine series has been administered, the anti-HBs response is less than 10 IU/ml.. See [Table 2](#Table2) Booster doses and refer to [Chapter 18](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hepatitis-b-the-green-book-chapter-18) for advice on response to vaccine and the use of additional doses.The role of immunological memory in individuals with chronic kidney failure on renal dialysis is not clear, and protection may persist only as long as anti-HBs levels remain above 10mIU/ml. Antibody levels should be monitored annually and if they fall below 10mIU/ml, a booster dose of vaccine should be given to people who have previously responded to the vaccine. (See [Doses and Frequency](#Doseandfrequency) and [Chapter 18](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hepatitis-b-the-green-book-chapter-18)).It is recommended that recipients should be tested one to two months after the completion of the primary vaccine and non-responders managed based on the results as per [Chapter 18](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hepatitis-b-the-green-book-chapter-18).Other factors have been observed that reduce the immune response to hepatitis B vaccines such as, age over 40 years, obesity and smoking. (For further details see [SPC](https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc#gref) and Chapter 18).**Choice of Hep B vaccine**The response to Hep B vaccine among individuals with renal failure is lower than among healthy adults. However, increased response rates have been reported in vaccines formulated for use in individuals with chronic renal failure. Therefore, the vaccines formulated for use in individuals with chronic renal insufficiency should be used for these individuals (see [Chapter 18](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hepatitis-b-the-green-book-chapter-18)).**Pregnancy and breast-feeding**There is no evidence of risk from vaccinating pregnant women or those who are breast-feeding with inactivated vaccines. Since Hep B is an inactivated vaccine, the risks to the foetus are negligible and it should be given where there is a definite risk of infection (see [Chapter 18](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hepatitis-b-the-green-book-chapter-18)).  |
| **Records** | Record: * that valid informed consent was given or a decision to vaccinate made in the individual’s best interests in accordance with the [Mental Capacity Act 2005](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2005/9/contents)
* name of individual, address, date of birth and GP with whom the individual is registered
* name of immuniser
* name and brand of vaccine
* date of administration
* dose, form and route of administration of vaccine
* quantity administered
* batch number and expiry date
* anatomical site of vaccination
* advice given, including advice given if excluded or declines immunisation
* details of any adverse drug reactions and actions taken
* supplied via PGD

Records should be signed and dated (or a password controlled immuniser’s record on e-records). All records should be clear, legible and contemporaneous.This information should be recorded in the individual’s GP record. Where vaccine is administered outside the GP setting appropriate health records should be kept and the individual’s GP informed.The local Child Health Information Services team (Child Health Records Department) must be notified using the appropriate documentation/pathway as required by any local or contractual arrangement. A record of all individuals receiving treatment under this PGD should also be kept for audit purposes in accordance with local policy. |

1. **Key references**

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| **Key references**  | **Hep B vaccine** * [Immunisation Against Infectious Disease:](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immunisation-against-infectious-disease-the-green-book) ‘The Green Book’

 [Chapter 4](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immunisation-procedures-the-green-book-chapter-4), last updated March 2013, [Chapter 18](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hepatitis-b-the-green-book-chapter-18), last updated August 2024* Summary of Product Characteristic for Engerix B®, GlaxoSmithKline. 20 November 2024

 [Engerix B 20 micrograms/1 ml Suspension for injection in pre-filled syringe - Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC](https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/1637/smpc)) * Summary of Product Characteristic for HBVAXPRO®40micrograms. MSD Ltd. 15 December 2022

 [HBVAXPRO 40micrograms - Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC)](https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/medicine/9848) * Summary of Product Characteristic for Fendrix®. GlaxoSmithKline.

 21 July 2023 [Fendrix - Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC)](https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/137)* Clinical Practice Guideline, Management of Blood Borne Viruses within the Haemodialysis Unit

 [www.ukkidney.org/health-professionals/guidelines/guidelines-commentaries](http://www.ukkidney.org/health-professionals/guidelines/guidelines-commentaries)**General*** Health Technical Memorandum 07-01: Safe Management of Healthcare Waste. NHSE

 [NHS England » Health technical memoranda](https://www.england.nhs.uk/estates/health-technical-memoranda/)* National Minimum Standards and Core Curriculum for Immunisation Training. Published February 2018.

 [www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-minimum-standards-and-core-curriculum-for-immunisation-training-for-registered-healthcare-practitioners](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-minimum-standards-and-core-curriculum-for-immunisation-training-for-registered-healthcare-practitioners)* NICE Medicines Practice Guideline 2 (MPG2): Patient Group Directions. Published March 2017.

 [Overview | Patient group directions | Guidance | NICE](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/mpg2)* NICE MPG2 Patient group directions: competency framework for health professionals using patient group directions. Updated March 2017.

 [Tools and resources | Patient group directions | Guidance | NICE](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/mpg2/resources)* UKHSA Immunisation Collection

 [www.gov.uk/government/collections/immunisation](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immunisation) * UKHSA Vaccine Incident Guidance

 [Vaccine incident guidance: responding to vaccine errors - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vaccine-incident-guidance-responding-to-vaccine-errors)  * PHE Protocol for ordering storage and handling of vaccines. April 2014.

 [www.gov.uk/government/publications/protocol-for-ordering-storing-and-handling-vaccines](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protocol-for-ordering-storing-and-handling-vaccines) |

1. **Practitioner authorisation sheet**

**Hep B Renal PGD v5.00 Valid from: 28 February 2025 Expiry: 28 February 2028**

Before signing this PGD, check that the document has had the necessary authorisations in section two. Without these, this PGD is not lawfully valid.

**Practitioner**

By signing this patient group direction, you are indicating that you agree to its contents and that you will work within it.

Patient group directions do not remove inherent professional obligations or accountability.

It is the responsibility of each professional to practise only within the bounds of their own competence and professional code of conduct.

|  |
| --- |
| I confirm that I have read and understood the content of this Patient Group Direction and that I am willing and competent to work to it within my professional code of conduct. |
| Name | Designation | Signature | Date |
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**Authorising manager**

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| --- |
| I confirm that the practitioners named above have declared themselves suitably trained and competent to work under this PGD. I give authorisation on behalf of **INSERT NAME OF ORGANISATION**  for the above named health care professionals who have signed the PGD to work under it. |
| Name | Designation | Signature | Date |
|  |  |  |  |

**Note to authorising manager**

Score through unused rows in the list of practitioners to prevent practitioner additions post managerial authorisation.

This authorisation sheet should be retained to serve as a record of those practitioners authorised to work under this PGD.

1. This includes any relevant amendments to legislation. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Exclusion under this PGD does not necessarily mean the medication is contraindicated, but it would be outside the PGD’s remit and another form of authorisation will be required [↑](#footnote-ref-3)