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Mae Brechu yn achub bywydau
Vaccination saves lives

NHS Wales pertussis vaccination programme for pregnant women



Visual aid for Healthcare Professionals

Key changes effective from the 1st July 2024

This information is for health professionals who are responsible for delivering the NHS pertussis vaccination programme for pregnant women in Wales.

What is changing?

- **New recommended vaccine:** The pertussis-containing vaccine for pregnant women will switch from the 4-in-1 dTaP/IPV (Boostrix-IPV® or Repevax®) to a tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (Tdap) vaccine called ADACEL®.
- **Vaccine composition:** ADACEL® does not contain the polio component found in Boostrix-IPV® or Repevax®.

Why is there a product change?

Research indicates that infants of mothers vaccinated with dTaP/IPV vaccines during pregnancy had lower, but still protective, polio antibody levels compared to infants of unvaccinated mothers.

In October 2022, the JCVI advised a non-IPV containing pertussis vaccine (Tdap) in the maternal programme to address a potential immunity gap. From 1st July 2024, ADACEL® (Tdap) will replace the dTaP/IPV in the maternal programme. However, Boostrix-IPV® or Repevax® can still be administered if ADACEL® is unavailable or contraindicated.

For further details, refer to the [Maternal pertussis vaccine change letter.docx \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

Pertussis-containing vaccines currently administered in Wales

Pertussis Programme	Vaccine	Alternative vaccine
Pregnant women	ADACEL®	Boostrix-IPV® or Repevax® (for individuals with a severe latex allergy)
Infants (8, 12 and 16 weeks)	Infanrix hexa® or Vaxelis®	
Pre-school booster (3 yrs and 4 mths)	Boostrix-IPV® or Repevax®	
Healthcare professionals	ADACEL®, Boostrix-IPV® or Repevax®	

Pertussis vaccine usage guidelines

- There are **no changes** to the pertussis-containing vaccines given in the pre-school immunisation schedule.
- Boostrix-IPV® remains for pre-school boosters and for pregnant women contraindicated to ADACEL® (e.g., latex allergy).
- If ADACEL® is unavailable, Boostrix-IPV® or Repevax® may be given to pregnant women to avoid delays in vaccine administration (as indicated in the PGD).

- Providers not administering pre-school boosters should use up Boostrix-IPV® stocks to prevent wastage.

Availability of ADACEL®

- Ordering:** ADACEL® can now be ordered via ImmForm
- Stock Management:** Add ADACEL® to your routine ImmForm. ADACEL® will be available in single dose packs, in a pre-filled syringe. ADACEL® does not come with a needle, which will need to be ordered separately.
- Ordering controls:** High-level controls are in place to reduce ordering errors. Avoid local stockpiling; order no more than 2 weeks' worth of stock to minimise wastage due to fridge failures. Providers who do not provide pre-school boosters should plan to use up local stockpiles of Boostrix-IPV® ahead of the 1st July, and any remaining stocks of Boostrix-IPV® may be offered to pregnant women to prevent vaccine wastage.

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

Pre-school immunisation

ADACEL® should **not** be used in the pre-school immunisation programme as it lacks the polio component.

Latex allergy

ADACEL® has a latex bung and is contraindicated for pregnant women with a history of anaphylactic allergy to latex. Offer Boostrix-IPV® or Repevax® as an alternative.

Vaccine packaging

The packaging for ADACEL® and Boostrix-IPV® is similar, so **verify the vaccine carefully** to avoid errors during administration.

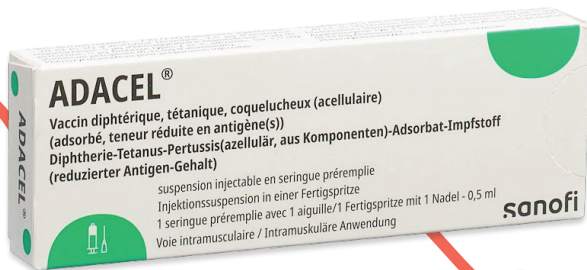
Electronic Medicines Compendium - Summary of product characteristics (SmPCs)

- [ADACEL® \(external site\)](#)
- [Boostrix-IPV® \(external site\)](#)
- [Repevax® \(external site\)](#)

Further information

Please visit the links below for further resources and guidance regarding pertussis vaccination.

- Pertussis immunisation guidance for UK public health professionals: **Pertussis: the green book, chapter 24 - GOV.UK (external site)**
- Vaccination information and guidance for Wales: **Immunisation and Vaccines - Public Health Wales**
- Comprehensive immunisation schedules for Wales: **PHW Complete routine immunisation schedule for Wales**
- Free** resources to support vaccination clinics: **Health Information Resources - Public Health Wales**
- Frequently asked questions about pertussis vaccination for healthcare professionals: **PHW FAQs**
- Guidance on Patient Group Directions: **Patient Group Directions (PGD) - Welsh Medicines Advice Service (external site)**
- Occupational pertussis vaccination of healthcare workers: **Pertussis: occupational vaccination of health care workers - GOV.UK (external site)**



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