

From:  
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To:  
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Subject:  
rotavirus vaccine  
Date:  
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Here's some detailed info about this (apologies if someone has previously posted or sent out a similar message)

Rotateq was approved for use in Canada in late 2006.

it targets rotavirus which causes diarrhea and there is a 1 in 106 risk of hospitalization for infants from this disease (one of the main causes of hospitalization in infants).

It is a live ORAL vaccine ( 2 mL per dose) given over 3 doses.

First dose should be at age 6 to 12 WEEKS.

Doses must be 4-10 weeks apart.

Must FINISH the vaccine series by age 8 months.

Sample dosing schedules would be 2,4,6 months or 3,5,7 months for example.

Monograph suggests it should be fine to give with Pentacel (although possible slight effect on response to acellular pertussis? ) and prevnar.

98% effective against severe diarrhea. 63 % reduction in hospitalizations.

Works over 2 seasons, which is the time frame that child will be most susceptible to rotavirus.

Apparently no increased risk intussusception from this vaccine if given according to above schedule.

Not covered by public health.

Cost of vaccine is \$ 55 per dose before pharmacy markup and dispensing fees.

If parent/caregiver of child wants this, write Rx and let PHARMACY know on Rx that order # is through Merck Frosst 1-800-463-7251 (our clinic can't order it directly unless we have a minimum order of \$400). Might be worthwhile checking with pharmacy first.

DIN # of the vaccine is 022 844 13

You may be asked about this by parents, so this is an FYI



Perhaps we should post this in e-docs (if people agree with content)

Colin

