

## HALTON REGION PUBLIC HEALTH • Office of the Medical Officer of Health

TEL: 905-825-6000 • TOLL FREE: 1-866-442-5866 • FAX: 905-825-1444

TO: Halton Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Emergency Departments, other Healthcare Providers

FROM: Dr. Joanna Oda, Associate Medical Officer of Health

DATE: June 19, 2024

RE: Updates on Vaccine Products and Packaging Changes

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### QUICK FACTS

- GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) is changing the packaging of its MMR, MMRV, and Varicella vaccines.
  - The diluent provided with Priorix®, Priorix Tetra®, and Varilrix® vaccines will now come in a pre-filled syringe, previously available as diluent presented in an ampoule.
- Sanofi Canada will discontinue the Pediacel® vaccine and transition to the Pentacel® vaccine.
- The supply of Tdap vaccine will switch from Adacel® to Boostrix®.
- The package of Td ADSORBED will change from 5 single-dose vials to 10 single-dose vials.
- New packaging will be distributed once existing supplies have been fully depleted. During the transition period you may receive either vaccine type in your vaccine order. Both versions of the vaccines can still be used until their expiration date.
- Please consider new product dimensions when ordering to ensure your vaccine fridge has the capacity to safely store vaccines.

### KEY MESSAGES FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

- **The packaging for Priorix® (MMR), Priorix-Tetra® (MMRV), and Varilrix® (Var) is changing.**
  - The new package format will include 10 single doses of vaccine power in a vial and 10 doses of diluent in **prefilled syringes**. Previously, the diluent came in a glass ampule.
  - For information on how to reconstitute these vaccines, refer to the product monographs.
  - The new package size for these products is 3 cm x 18 cm x 14 cm.
  - Orders for MMR vaccines are now being filled with Priorix®.
  - Halton Region Public Health is expecting to start receiving Priorix-Tetra® (MMRV) and Varilrix® (Var) in the coming weeks. Orders for MMRV and Var will be filled with once existing vaccine supplies have been fully depleted.
- **Transition of DTaP-IPV-Hib vaccine from Pediacel® to Pentacel®**
  - Pediacel® and Pentacel® vaccines have almost identical formulations and manufacturing processes, the only difference being their final presentation.
  - Both vaccines are equivalent and interchangeable DTaP-IPV-Hib vaccines. Pentacel® can be used to complete a DTaP-IPV-Hib vaccination series that was started with Pediacel®.

- The package will change to 5 single doses of Quadracel vaccine in a vial and 5 single doses of Hib lyophilized vaccine in a vial.
  - Pentacel® requires reconstitution. Refer to product monograph for instructions on how to reconstitute.
  - Product dimensions for Pentacel® packaging is 8.5 cm x 4.6cm x 5.1cm.
  - Halton Region Public Health is expecting to start receiving Pentacel® in the coming weeks. Orders for DTaP-IPV-Hib will be filled with Pentacel® once our supply of Pediacel® has been fully depleted.
- **Tdap transition from Adacel® to Boostrix®**
    - Boostrix® comes in a pack of 10 pre-filled syringes, each containing 0.5 mL of the vaccine.
    - The pack size is 11.43cm x 8.25cm x 10.95cm.
    - Halton Region Public Health is expecting to start receiving Boostrix® in the coming weeks. Orders for Tdap will be filled with Boostrix® once Adacel® has been fully distributed.
- **Td ADSORBED**
    - The new 10 single dose pack size is 3.35" x 1.81" x 2.01".
    - The new pack sizes have arrived. Orders for Td Adsorbed will be filled with the new 10 single dose packs once the 5 single dose packs have been fully distributed.

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

- [PRIORIX-TETRA \(MMRV\) Product Monograph](#)
- [PRIORIX \(MMR\) Product Monograph](#)
- [VARILRIX \(Var\) Product Monograph](#)
- [Pentacel \(DTAP-IPV-Hib\) Product Monograph](#)
- [BOOSTRIX \(Tdap\) Product Monograph](#)
- [Td ADSORBED Product Monograph](#)
- [Publicly Funded Immunization Schedules for Ontario](#)

Please report all suspected/confirmed cases of [Diseases of Public Health Significance](#) (only report COVID-19 cases occurring in high-risk settings) to Public Health immediately by calling 311, 905-825-6000 or toll free at 1-866-442-5866.

PLEASE PROVIDE A COPY TO ALL PHYSICIANS IN YOUR OFFICE AND/OR POST IN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS AND PHYSICIAN LOUNGES. IF YOU HAVE ANY ISSUES WITH THIS ATTACHMENT, PLEASE EMAIL [DOCTORS@HALTON.CA](mailto:DOCTORS@HALTON.CA).