

Department of Nephrology/Pharmacy

Hepatitis B vaccination (Fendrix®)

What is Fendrix® and what does it do?

Fendrix® is a vaccine which prevents hepatitis B disease in patients with renal diseases who are likely to need dialysis in the future. Fendrix® has been developed for renal patients with a reduced immune system.

Hepatitis B is a virus which affects the liver and it is transferred by blood and other bodily fluids of infected people.

Why do I need to be immunised against hepatitis B?

Before starting dialysis all patients are immunised against hepatitis B following national guidelines. This is because dialysis, especially haemodialysis, involves blood and so there is a risk of transfer of infection. All dialysis patients (including those who are to receive peritoneal dialysis (PD) and staff are immunised against hepatitis B infection for everyone's safety.

How do I arrange my Fendrix® injections?

Before it is time for you to start to receive dialysis your doctor or specialist nurse will write to your GP and let them know that you need to be immunised against hepatitis B with a course of Fendrix® injections.

You will also receive a letter at the same time to let you know that you will need to book an appointment to receive your first injection. The letter will explain who you need to contact to make the appointment.

How often do I need to have Fendrix® injections?

Hepatitis B immunisation with Fendrix® means that you will need to have four injections over six months. The injections are given:

- **First injection:** When you make your first appointment to have your first injection.
- **Second injection:** One month after your first injection.
- **Third injection:** Two months after your first injection.
- **Fourth injection:** Six months after your first injection.

If you miss an injection talk to your GP or practice nurse as soon as possible to arrange another visit.

Make sure that you complete the course of four injections – if not you may not be fully immunised against hepatitis B.

However, if you need to start to receive dialysis before you have received all four Fendrix® injections this will not mean that you cannot receive dialysis but you should still complete the Fendrix® injections course.

Do I need to have any tests or be monitored because I am receiving Fendrix® injections?

Six to eight weeks after completing your course of Fendrix® injections your blood will be checked in clinic to make sure you have a good level of immunity to hepatitis B. Once the result of this blood test is returned, your doctor or clinic nurse will let you know if you need to have any further injections or any booster doses in the future.

Are there any side effects?

The most common side effect seen with Fendrix® injection is pain or discomfort at the injection site which should stop soon after the injection.

Other side effects which you may experience for a short time after receiving an injection include headache, tiredness, a high temperature or stomach ache.

Special warnings or precautions you need to be aware of

If you have ever had an allergic reaction to any vaccine you should let your doctor or specialist nurse know before having your first injection of Fendrix®.

If you have had, or have an infection with a high temperature within a few days of your appointment for any of the four doses of Fendrix® you should postpone having the injection until you have fully recovered. Please discuss this with your doctor or practice nurse.

If you have received other immunisation injections or expect to do so soon you should not start to receive Fendrix® until two to three weeks after you have completed these immunisations.

Further information

Further information about your tablet can be found in the patient information leaflet found in the tablet/capsule box or on the container.

If you have any other questions about your medication, please contact the medicines helpline on 01223 217502.



We are currently working towards a smoke free site. Smoking is only permitted in the designated smoking areas.

For advice and support in quitting, contact your GP or the free NHS stop smoking helpline on 0800 169 0 169

Help with this leaflet:



If you would like this information in another language, large print or audio format, please ask the department to contact Patient Information: 01223 216032 or patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Polish

Jeżeli chciałbyś uzyskać te informacje w innym języku, w dużej czcionce lub w formacie audio, poproś pracownika oddziału o kontakt z biurem Informacji Pacjenta (Patient Information) pod numerem telefonu: 01223 216032 lub pod adresem patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Portuguese

Se precisar desta informação noutra língua, em impressão de letras grandes ou formato áudio, por favor peça ao departamento que contacte a secção de Informação aos Doentes (Patient Information) pelo telefone 01223 216032 ou através do e-mail patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Arabic

إذا كنت تود الحصول على هذه المعلومات بلغة أخرى، بالأحرف الكبيرة أو بشكل شريط صوتي، يمكنك أن تطلب من القسم الاتصال بمعلومات المريض على الرقم: 01223216032 أو عبر البريد الإلكتروني: patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Cantonese

如您需以另一語言版本、特大字體或錄音形式索取本資料，請要求部門聯絡病人諮詢服務：電話 01223 216032，電郵地址 patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Turkish

Eğer bu bilgileri başka bir dilde veya büyük baskılı veya sesli olarak isterseniz, lütfen bulunduğunuz bölümdeki görevlilere söyleyin Hasta Bilgilendirme servisini arasinlar: 01223 216032 veya patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Urdu

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی دیگر زبان میں، بڑے الفاظ میں یا آڈیو طریقہ سے درکار ہوں تو برائے مہربانی اس شعبہ سے پیشینٹ انفارمیشن سے ذیل کے ذریعہ رابطہ کرنے کی درخواست کریں: 01223 216032 یا patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Bengali

আপনি যদি এই তথ্য অন্য কোন ভাষায়, বড় অক্ষরে বা অডিও রেকর্ডিং পেতে চান তাহলে 'প্যাশেন্ট ইনফরমেশান' এর সঙ্গে 01223 216032 নম্বরে ফোন করে বা patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk ঠিকানায় ই-মেইল করে যোগাযোগ করার জন্য ডিপার্টমেন্টটিতে অনুরোধ জানান।

Document history

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