



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public Health  
Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences  
305 South Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

CHARLES D. BAKER  
Governor

KARYN E. POLITO  
Lieutenant Governor

Division of Epidemiology and Immunization

Tel: (617) 983-6800

Fax: (617) 983-6840

[www.mass.gov/dph/epi](http://www.mass.gov/dph/epi)

[www.mass.gov/dph/imm](http://www.mass.gov/dph/imm)

MARYLOU SUDDERS  
Secretary

MONICA BHAREL, MD, MPH  
Commissioner

Tel: 617-624-6000  
[www.mass.gov/dph](http://www.mass.gov/dph)

From: Pejman Talebian, MA, MPH, Director  
Immunization Program

Robert W. Morrison, Vaccine Manager  
Immunization Program

Date: October 3, 2016

Subject: Availability of Hiberix<sup>®</sup> Vaccine

---

In keeping with the recommendations of the Massachusetts Vaccine Purchasing Advisory Committee (MVPAC), the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) is pleased to offer brand choice for an additional *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) vaccine. Hiberix<sup>®</sup>, manufactured by GlaxoSmithKline is now available to be ordered with all of your other vaccines. MDPH has been supplying Hib vaccine in Pentacel<sup>®</sup> (DTaP-IPV-Hib) and ActHIB<sup>®</sup> vaccines, both manufactured by Sanofi Pasteur.

#### Vaccine Schedule

Hiberix<sup>®</sup> (PRP-T), which had previously been approved only for a booster dose of Hib vaccine, is now approved for routine use as a 3-dose primary series at 2, 4, and 6 months of age, followed by a booster dose administered at 15 through 18 months of age.

The first dose of Hiberix<sup>®</sup> may be given as early as 6 weeks of age and the booster dose may be given as early as 12 months of age.

Hiberix<sup>®</sup> is supplied in single-dose vials of lyophilized vaccine, and comes with a 0.9% saline diluent. In contrast, Sanofi's ActHIB<sup>®</sup> (PRP-T) is supplied in single-dose vials of lyophilized vaccine, and comes with a 0.4% saline diluent. Please note, these diluents are **not** interchangeable. Any doses of Hiberix<sup>®</sup> or ActHIB<sup>®</sup> that are reconstituted with a diluent other than the specific one supplied by their respective manufacturer should not be counted as valid and should be repeated.

For additional guidance on the use of Hiberix<sup>®</sup>, please see:

- CDC's [MMWR](#) (CDC. MMWR 2016;65;418-419)
- Hiberix<sup>®</sup> [package insert](#).
- Immunization Action Coalition's [Vaccines with Diluents: How to Use Them](#)

### **Vaccine Ordering**

Because Hiberix<sup>®</sup> is not currently in your inventory, you will need to perform an additional step the first time you order this vaccine. You will need to select "Add Vaccine" at the bottom of the screen after you request doses of the other vaccines you are ordering. From the drop down menu, select "Hib" vaccine, and then select the brand you would want to order. You should only stock one formulation of monovalent Hib vaccine. If you do change formulations of Hib or any other vaccine, make sure you use all of the doses of the previous vaccine or transfer those doses to another provider.

For questions about state supplied vaccine availability and ordering, please contact the Vaccine Management Unit at 617-983-6828. For questions about Hiberix<sup>®</sup> recommendations and administration, please call the Immunization Program at 617-983-6800 and ask to speak to an immunization epidemiologist.