**Twinrix® Vaccine Recommendations**

- Approved for use in persons 18 years and older **only**.
- Indicated for active immunization against disease caused by hepatitis A virus and infection by all known subtypes of hepatitis B virus.
- Persons at Increased risk for Hepatitis A:
  - Men who have sex with men (MSM).
  - People who work with HAV-infected primates or who work with HAV in research laboratories.
  - Members of households planning to adopt a child, or care for a newly arriving adopted child, from a country where hepatitis A is common.
  - Persons with clotting factor disorder.
  - Users of illegal drugs.
  - Persons with chronic liver disease.
- Persons at increased risk for Hepatitis B:
  - Men who have sex with men (MSM).
  - International travelers to areas with high rates of hepatitis B infection.
  - Current or recent injection drug users (IDU) who share needles.
  - Sexual and household contacts of hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) positive persons.
  - Persons with end stage renal disease.
  - Healthcare workers and public safety workers with risk for exposure to blood or blood-contaminated fluids.

**Twinrix® Dosing Guidelines**

- It is not necessary to restart the series or add doses if the interval between doses is longer than the recommended interval.
- Appropriate spacing of the doses must be maintained to assure long-term protection from both vaccines.

**Vaccine Components**

- Twinrix contains:
  - 720 EL U. of hepatitis A vaccine (equivalent to a pediatric dose of Havrix)
  - 20 mcg of hepatitis B surface antigen protein (equivalent to an adult dose of Engerix-B)

**Contraindications**

- Severe allergic reaction (e.g. anaphylaxis) after a previous dose of any hepatitis A-containing or hepatitis B-containing vaccine.
- Allergy to any component of Twinrix®, including yeast and neomycin.
- Moderate or severe acute illness until improved.

**Precautions**

- Syncope can occur after administration. Observe patient for 15 minutes before allowing them to leave.
- The cap on the prefilled syringe contains latex and may cause an allergic reaction in latex-sensitive patients.

For more information on Hepatitis A or Hepatitis B vaccines or any other recommended vaccine, visit the Immunization Program website at [http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip/providers/B71.htm](http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip/providers/B71.htm) or call (213) 351-7800.
- Because the hepatitis B component of Twinrix is equivalent to a standard dose of hepatitis B vaccine, the schedule is the same whether Twinrix or single-antigen hepatitis B vaccine is used.
- If the patient needs to complete the hepatitis B series with single antigen after 2 doses of Twinrix on the accelerated schedule (0, day 7), 2 doses are needed because the intervals are too short for the hepatitis B antigen to be effective.
- Single-antigen hepatitis A vaccine (adult formulation) may be used to complete a series begun with Twinrix and Twinrix may be used to complete a series begun with single-antigen hepatitis A vaccine.
- If 1 dose of Twinrix is given, the hepatitis A series may be completed with 2 doses of adult formulation hepatitis A vaccine separated by at least 5 months.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Doses of Twinrix Given</th>
<th>Doses of Single-Antigen Hepatitis A (adult formulation) Needed to Complete Series</th>
<th>Doses of Single-Antigen Hepatitis B Needed to Complete Series</th>
<th>Interval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5 month interval between the 2 single antigen doses of Hep A vaccine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5 months after 2nd dose of Twinrix</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5 months after the 3rd dose of Twinrix</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>The 2 doses should be separated by at least 8 weeks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Adverse Reactions**
- Injection site: soreness and redness.
- Systemic: headache and fatigue.

**Vaccine Storage and Handling**
- Store Twinrix® in the refrigerator between 35°F and 46°F (aim for 40°F).
- Do not freeze – discard if vaccine has been frozen.