

# Summary of Product Characteristics

## 1 NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Havrix Monodose Vaccine. Hepatitis A Vaccine (inactivated, adsorbed), 1440 ELISA units/ 1ml Suspension for injection in a pre-filled syringe

## 2 QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

### Active Substance:

1 dose (1ml) contains:

Hepatitis A virus (HM175strain) (inactivated)<sup>1,2</sup> 1440 ELISA units/1 ml

<sup>1</sup>Adsorbed on aluminium hydroxide, hydrated (Total: 0.5 mg Al<sup>3+</sup>)

<sup>2</sup>Produced on MRC-5 human diploid cells

### Excipient(s) with known effect:

This vaccine contains phenylalanine 166 micrograms per dose (see section 4.4).

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1

## 3 PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Suspension for injection in a pre-filled syringe.

Slightly opaque white suspension.

## 4 CLINICAL PARTICULARS

### 4.1 Therapeutic indications

Active immunisation with hepatitis A vaccine is recommended for non-immune adult and adolescent (16 years of age and above) travellers to high risk areas, (Africa, Asia, Central and South America, the Middle East, possibly Southern and Eastern Europe).

Other high risk non-immune groups may be considered for immunisation.

- Those with recent close contact with infected individual
- Child care workers
- Staff and residents at institutions for persons with mental handicap
- Persons with haemophilia and recipients of plasma-derived clotting factors
- Patients with chronic liver disease especially if visiting a high risk area
- Health care workers
- Food handlers
- Sewage workers
- Prison officers
- Those with renal failure prior to dialysis
- Military and diplomatic personnel
- Intravenous drug abusers
- Homosexuals
- Persons with multiple sexual partners

It is also indicated for use during outbreaks of hepatitis A infection.

If there is a history of jaundice, age over 50 years or residence in high risk areas, then screening for immunity to hepatitis A is advised before immunisation.

If the blood test confirms immunity to hepatitis A, immunisation is not needed.

### 4.2 Posology and method of administration

## Posology

### *Primary Vaccination*

Primary immunisation consists of a single dose of Havrix Monodose Vaccine (1.0mL suspension).

Havrix Monodose confers protection against hepatitis A within two to three weeks (See Section 5.1, *Pharmacodynamic Effects*).

If exposure to a high risk of contracting hepatitis A is expected before completion of primary immunisation or if protection is needed less than two weeks before departure, concomitant administration of immune serum globulin might be considered. In this case, the hepatitis A vaccine should be given at a different site.

Serological data indicate that there should be continuing protection against Hepatitis A for up to 5 years after the first dose in subjects who responded to the initial vaccination.

### *Booster Vaccination*

After primary vaccination with Havrix Monodose Vaccine, a booster dose is recommended in order to ensure long term protection. This booster dose should be given at any time between 6 months and 5 years, but preferably between 6 and 12 months after the primary dose. (See Section 5.1 *Pharmacodynamic effects*).

Clinical data demonstrate that anti-HAV antibodies persist for at least 10 years in vaccinees who receive the complete vaccination course (i.e. 2 doses of Havrix Monodose Vaccine; See Section 5.1, *Pharmacodynamic effects*)

Havrix Monodose is not recommended in persons under 16 years of age.

## Method of administration

Havrix Monodose is for intramuscular use only and must not be given intravascularly. The vaccine should be administered into the deltoid region and not in the gluteal region.

Exceptionally the vaccine may be administered subcutaneously in patients with thrombocytopenia or bleeding disorders. Firm pressure should be applied to the injection site (without rubbing) for at least two minutes. However, this route of administration may result in suboptimal response to the vaccine.

## **4.3 Contraindications**

Hypersensitivity to the active substances or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1 to or neomycin.

Hypersensitivity after previous administration of hepatitis A vaccine.

Havrix contains less than 20ng traces of neomycin. The vaccine should not be used in subjects with known hypersensitivity to neomycin.

The administration of Havrix Monodose should be postponed in subjects suffering from acute severe febrile illness.

## **4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use**

As with all vaccinations, appropriate medication (e.g. adrenaline) should be readily available for immediate use in case of anaphylaxis.

Syncope (fainting) can occur following, or even before, any vaccination as a psychogenic response to the needle injection. It is important that procedures are in place to avoid injury from faints.

It is possible that subjects may be in the incubation period of hepatitis A infection at the time of immunisation. It is not known whether Havrix Monodose will prevent hepatitis A in such cases.

In haemodialysis patients and in subjects with an impaired immune system, adequate anti-HAV antibody titres may not be obtained after the primary immunisation and such patients may therefore require administration of additional doses of vaccine.

## Excipients

This vaccine contains 166 micrograms of phenylalanine in each dose. Phenylalanine may be harmful to patients that have phenylketonuria (PKU).

This medicine contains potassium, less than 1 mmol (39 mg) per 1 ml dose, i.e. essentially 'potassium- free'.

This medicinal product contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per 1 ml dose, that is to say essentially 'sodium- free'.

#### **4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction**

The concomitant administration of Havrix with normal immunoglobulin does not influence the seroconversion rate but may result in a relatively lower HAV antibody titre than when the vaccine is given alone. Havrix and immunoglobulins should be administered at separate injection sites.

Preliminary data on the concomitant administration of Havrix, with recombinant hepatitis B virus vaccine suggests that there is no interference in the immune response to either antigen. Interference with immune response is unlikely to occur when Havrix Monodose is administered with other inactivated or live vaccines.

Havrix Monodose can be given concomitantly with monovalent and combination vaccines comprised of measles, mumps, rubella and varicella.

When concomitant administration is considered necessary the vaccines must be given at different injection sites.

Havrix Monodose must not be mixed with other vaccines in the same syringe.

#### **4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation**

##### Pregnancy

The effect of Havrix Monodose on foetal development has not been assessed. However, as with all inactivated viral vaccines the risks to the foetus are considered to be negligible. Havrix Monodose should be used during pregnancy only when clearly needed.

##### Breast-feeding

The effect on breast-fed infants of the administration of Havrix Monodose to their mothers has not been evaluated in clinical studies. Havrix Monodose should therefore be used with caution in breast-feeding women.

##### Fertility

No fertility data are available.

#### **4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines**

Havrix has no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

#### **4.8 Undesirable effects**

In controlled clinical studies, the most commonly reported reactions after administration of Havrix Monodose were irritability, headache, pain and redness at the injection site and fatigue.

The safety profile presented below is based on data from more than 5300 subjects.

Frequencies per dose are defined as follows:

Very common:  $\geq 1/10$

Common:  $\geq 1/100$  to  $< 1/10$

Uncommon:  $\geq 1/1,000$  to  $< 1/100$

Rare:  $\geq 1/10,000$  to  $< 1/1,000$

Very rare:  $< 1/10,000$

- **Clinical trials**

##### Infections and infestations:

Uncommon: upper respiratory tract infection, rhinitis

Metabolism and nutrition disorders:

Common: appetite lost

Psychiatric disorders:

Very common: irritability

Nervous system disorders:

Very common: headache

Common: drowsiness

Uncommon: dizziness

Rare: hypoaesthesia, paraesthesia

Gastrointestinal disorders:

Common: gastrointestinal symptoms (such as diarrhoea, nausea, vomiting)

Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders:

Uncommon: rash

Rare: pruritus

Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders:

Uncommon: myalgia, musculoskeletal stiffness

General disorders and administration site conditions:

Very common: pain and redness at the injection site, fatigue

Common: malaise, fever ( $\geq 37.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), injection site reaction (such as swelling and induration)

Uncommon: influenza like illness

Rare: chills

- **Post-marketing surveillance**

Immune system disorders:

Anaphylaxis, allergic reactions including anaphylactoid reactions and mimicking serum sickness

Nervous system disorders:

Convulsions

Vascular disorders:

Vasculitis

Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders:

Angioneurotic oedema, urticaria, erythema multiforme

Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders:

Arthralgia

**Reporting of suspected adverse reactions**

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via HPRC Pharmacovigilance, Website: [www.hpra.ie](http://www.hpra.ie).

**4.9 Overdose**

Cases of overdose have been reported during post-marketing surveillance. Adverse events reported following overdosage were similar to those reported with normal vaccine administration.

**5 PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES**

**5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties**

Havrix confers immunisation against Hepatitis A virus (HAV) by stimulating specific immune responses evidenced by the induction of antibodies against HAV.

#### *Immune response*

In clinical studies, 99% of vaccinees seroconverted 30 days after the first dose. In a subset of clinical studies where the kinetics of the immune response was studied, early and rapid seroconversion was demonstrated following administration of a single dose of Havrix in 79% of vaccinees at day 13, 85.3% at day 15, 95.2% at day 17 and 100% at day 19, which is shorter than the average incubation period of hepatitis A (4 weeks).

#### *Persistence of the immune response*

In order to ensure long term protection, a booster dose should be given between 6 and 12 months after the primary dose of Havrix Vaccine. However, if the booster dose has not been given between 6 and 12 months after the primary dose, the administration of this booster dose can be delayed up to 5 years. In a comparative trial, a booster dose given up to 5 years after the primary dose has been shown to induce similar antibody levels as a booster dose given between 6 and 12 months after the primary dose.

Long term persistence of hepatitis A antibody titers following 2 doses of Havrix given 6 to 12 months apart has been evaluated. Data available after 17 years allows prediction that at least 95% and 90% of subjects will remain seropositive ( $\geq 15$  mIU/ml) 30 and 40 years after vaccination, respectively (see Table 1).

**Table 1: Predicted proportion with anti-HAV level  $\geq 15$  mIU/ml and 95% confidence intervals for studies HAV-112 and HAV-123.**

| Year                    | $\geq 15$ mIU/ml | 95% CI  |         |
|-------------------------|------------------|---------|---------|
|                         |                  | LL      | UL      |
| Predictions for HAV-112 |                  |         |         |
| 25                      | 97.69 %          | 94.22 % | 100 %   |
| 30                      | 96.53 %          | 92.49 % | 99.42 % |
| 35                      | 94.22 %          | 89.02 % | 98.93 % |
| 40                      | 92.49 %          | 86.11 % | 97.84 % |
| Predictions for HAV-123 |                  |         |         |
| 25                      | 97.22 %          | 93.52 % | 100 %   |
| 30                      | 95.37 %          | 88.89 % | 99.07 % |
| 35                      | 92.59 %          | 86.09 % | 97.22 % |
| 40                      | 90.74 %          | 82.38 % | 95.37 % |

Current data do not support the need for booster vaccination among immunocompetent subjects after a 2 dose vaccination course.

#### *Efficacy of Havrix for outbreak control*

The efficacy of Havrix was evaluated in different community-wide outbreaks (Alaska, Slovakia, USA, UK, Israel and Italy). These studies demonstrated that vaccination with Havrix led to termination of the outbreaks. A vaccine coverage of 80% led to termination of the outbreaks within 4 to 8 weeks.

#### *Impact of mass vaccination on disease incidence*

A reduction in the incidence of hepatitis A was observed in countries where a two-dose Havrix immunization programme was implemented for children in their second year of life:

- In Israel, two retrospective database studies showed 88% and 95% reduction in hepatitis A incidence in the general population 5 and 8 years after the implementation of the vaccination program, respectively. Data from National Surveillance also showed a 95% reduction in hepatitis A incidence as compared to the pre-vaccination era.

- In Panama, a retrospective database study showed a 90% reduction in reported hepatitis A incidence in the vaccinated population, and 87% in the general population, 3 years after implementation of the vaccination programme.

## 5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

Not applicable.

## 5.3 Preclinical safety data

Not applicable.

# 6 PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

## 6.1 List of excipients

Polysorbate 20  
Amino acids for injection (containing phenylalanine)  
Disodium phosphate anhydrous  
Potassium dihydrogen phosphate  
Sodium chloride  
Potassium chloride  
Water for injections.

## 6.2 Incompatibilities

Not applicable.

## 6.3 Shelf life

3 years.

## 6.4 Special precautions for storage

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C).  
Keep container in the outer carton in order to protect from light.  
Do not freeze.  
Stability data indicate that Havrix is stable at temperatures up to 25°C for 3 days. These data are intended to guide healthcare professionals in case of temporary temperature excursion only.

## 6.5 Nature and contents of container

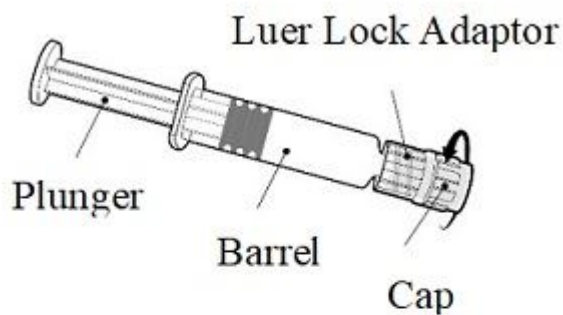
- 1 mL of suspension in a pre-filled syringe (type I glass) with a plunger stopper (butyl rubber) and with a rubber tip cap.
- 1 mL of suspension in a vial (type I glass) with a stopper (butyl rubber).

The tip cap and rubber plunger stopper of the pre-filled syringe and the stopper of the vial are made with synthetic rubber.

## 6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling

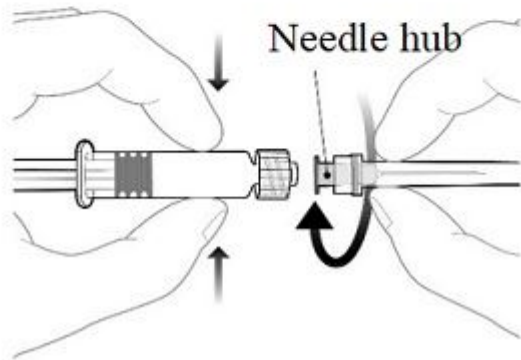
Upon storage, a fine white deposit with a clear colourless supernatant can be observed.  
The vaccine should be inspected visually for any foreign particulate matter and/or variation of physical aspect prior to administration. Before use, the product should be well shaken to obtain a slightly opaque white suspension. Discard if the contents of the syringe appear otherwise.

[Instructions for the pre-filled syringe](#)



Hold the syringe by the barrel, not by the plunger.

Unscrew the syringe cap by twisting it anticlockwise.



To attach the needle, connect the hub to the Luer Lock Adaptor and rotate a quarter turn clockwise until you feel it lock.

Do not pull the syringe plunger out of the barrel. If it happens, do not administer the vaccine.

#### Disposal

Any unused medicinal product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

#### **7 MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

GlaxoSmithKline (Ireland) Limited  
12 Riverwalk  
Citywest Business Campus  
Dublin 24  
Ireland

#### **8 MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER**

PA1077/026/002

#### **9 DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION**

Date of first authorisation: 13 December 1994

Date of last renewal: 01 October 2008

#### **10 DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT**

May 2023