



**PENTAVALENT VACCINE  
FACT SHEET FOR  
HEALTH CARE WORKERS  
IN BOTSWANA**



FS 739935



Promoting access to safe medicines

### 1. Indication

The pentavalent vaccine is used for the prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B, and severe Haemophilus influenzae type B (Hib) infections in children from 2-4 months of age.

### 2. Composition, Forms, and Route of Administration

#### Components:

- Diphtheria toxoid
- Tetanus toxoid
- Pertussis antigens
- Hepatitis B surface antigen
- Hib polysaccharide

**Formulation: Suspension for injection in multidose vials**

**Route: Intramuscular (IM) injection anterolateral part of the thigh**

- Do not administer into the gluteal muscle.
- Shake the vial before use to homogenise the vaccine.

### 3. Dosage and Vaccination Schedule

- Three-dose primary series:
- 1st dose at 2 months
- 2nd dose at 3 months
- 3rd dose at 4 months

### 4. Contraindications

#### Do not administer the vaccine in children with:

- History of severe allergic reaction to a previous dose of a vaccine containing these antigens
- Severe acute febrile illness (vaccination should be postponed until recovery; minor infections are not contraindications)
- At birth (not used as a birth dose for hepatitis B)

### 5. Adverse Effects and Precautions

#### Common reactions:

- Local reactions (redness, swelling, pain at injection site)
- Fever
- Malaise, irritability
- Headache, muscle pain

#### Rare but serious reactions:

- Anaphylaxis

#### Precautions:

- If administered simultaneously with other vaccines, use different syringes and different injection sites.

## 6. Adverse Event Reporting in Botswana:

Health care workers are encouraged to report any suspected adverse events following immunisation (AEFI) to BoMRA. Reporting helps monitor vaccine safety and protect public health. Even if you are uncertain whether the vaccine caused the reaction, reporting ensures potential concerns are identified early.

### Steps to report an AEFI:

1. Scan the QR code provided
2. Accept the terms and conditions
3. Complete the reporting form with all available information
4. Submit the form



### Or contact:

**Email:** [aefi@bomra.co.bw](mailto:aefi@bomra.co.bw)

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