Hepatitis A Vaccine (Inactivated Viral)
VAQTA®  Supplier: Merck Canada Inc.
(Adult presentation: 50 U/1.0 mL; Pediatric presentation: 25 U/0.5 mL)

INDICATIONS:
- See Hepatitis A Vaccine Indications

DOSES AND SCHEDULE:  
Routine series for Indigenous infants: 2 doses given as 0.5 mL of VAQTA® (pediatric presentation-25 U) IM at 6 and 18 months of age.

Other eligible individuals:
6 months-17 years of age (inclusive): 2 doses given as 0.5 mL of VAQTA® (pediatric presentation-25 U) IM, separated by 6 months.

18 years of age and older: 2 doses given as 1.0 mL of VAQTA® (adult presentation-50 U) IM, separated by 6 months.

ADMINISTRATION:
No additional requirements.

BOOSTER DOSES:
No booster doses are recommended at this time.

SEROLOGICAL TESTING:
Serological testing may be indicated prior to immunization for select populations, see Part 2 – Immunization of Special Populations. Post-vaccination serological testing is not indicated following a hepatitis A vaccine series.

CONTRAINDICATIONS:
1. History of an anaphylactic reaction to a previous dose of any hepatitis A vaccine, or to any component of VAQTA® or to latex.

PRODUCT COMPONENTS:
Potential allergens: neomycin, bovine albumin, latex.
Other components: formaldehyde, amorphous aluminum hydroxyphosphate sulfate, sodium borate.

A Hepatitis A vaccines may be used interchangeably using the age-appropriate dose for the product being given.
B Pediatric VAQTA® is approved for use in children 1-17 years of age (inclusive). However, NACI indicates that hepatitis A vaccine may be provided, beginning at 6 months of age, to infants who are at increased risk of infection or severe hepatitis A.
C Indigenous children remain eligible for hepatitis A vaccine up to and including 18 years of age using the age-appropriate dosing and schedule.
D For HIV positive individuals, provide 3 doses of vaccine at 0, 1 and 6 months.
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PRECAUTIONS:
Not applicable.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS:
For more information related to pre-exposure prophylaxis against hepatitis A related to travel, refer clients to their local travel clinic.

ADVERSE EVENTS:
Local: soreness, redness.
Systemic: headache, fatigue, fever, malaise, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea.