

July 24, 2018

Re: Ontario Rotavirus Immunization Program - Transitioning to RotaTeq® (Rot-5) pentavalent rotavirus vaccine

Dear Health Care Provider,

Ontario is transitioning from the monovalent rotavirus vaccine, Rotarix® (Rot-1) to the pentavalent rotavirus vaccine RotaTeq® (Rot-5) in the infant rotavirus immunization program.

Ontario is switching products as a result of the federally coordinated vaccine purchasing program. The National Advisory Committee on Immunization recommends routine infant rotavirus vaccination with either of the rotavirus vaccine products. They do not preferentially recommend one product over the other. Both products are live attenuated vaccines that are given orally. They differ in their authorized schedules, RotaTeq® is a **3 dose series** and Rotarix® is a **2 dose series**.

RotaTeq® vaccine doses are routinely given at 2, 4 and 6 months of age. Ideally, infants should start and complete their series with the same product whenever possible. In the event that Rotarix® is not available for infants who started their series with this product or if the product used for the first dose is unknown, RotaTeq® can be used, for a total of three doses.

Please continue to order vaccine doses on the [Vaccine/STI Medication Order Form](#). For additional information on the Ontario publicly funded rotavirus program and product details, please contact our immunization line at Hastings Prince Edward Public Health 613-966-5500 ext 222.