

## Patient Product Information

### COMVAC 5<sup>®</sup>

#### *(Fully Liquid Pentavalent Combination Vaccine)*

**Generic name: (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (Whole cell), Hepatitis B (rDNA) and Haemophilus Type b Conjugate Vaccine (Adsorbed))**

Read this information with care before getting **COMVAC 5<sup>®</sup>**

#### **1. What is COMVAC 5<sup>®</sup> and what is it used for?**

COMVAC 5 is a pentavalent and most cost-effective vaccine which gives protection from Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenza type B disease.

**Diphtheria:** Diphtheria is a contagious disease caused by bacterium *Corynebacterium diphtheriae* which creates a thick coating of dead tissue in the throat or nose, which makes it hard to breathe and swallow. Other symptoms include weakness, sore throat, swollen glands in the neck and fever. Diphtheria can cause serious complications, like paralysis (not being able to move), pneumonia (lung infection), and lung failure. It can also be fatal, especially for certain age groups. Getting vaccinated is the best way to prevent diphtheria.

**Tetanus (Lockjaw):** Tetanus is caused by bacterium *Clostridium tetani*. The most common sign is painful tightening in the jaw muscles that can make it hard to open the mouth, breathe, or swallow which is called "lockjaw". Other symptoms of tetanus can include headache, fever and sweating, stiff muscles, seizures (sudden, unusual movements or behavior), high blood pressure and fast heart rate. Tetanus can cause serious complications like paralysis and can be fatal. There's no cure for tetanus. Getting vaccinated is the best way to prevent tetanus.

**Pertussis (Whooping Cough):** Pertussis is a contagious disease caused by the bacterium *Bordetella pertussis*. The early symptoms of whooping cough include runny nose, cough, fever which can progress to long-lasting coughing fits followed by a high-pitched "whoop", feeling very tired after coughing fits and turning blue from not getting enough oxygen. Babies who get whooping cough can have dangerous complications, like pneumonia (lung infection), convulsions (uncontrolled shaking), and brain damage. Getting vaccinated is the best way to prevent whooping cough.

**Hepatitis B (rDNA):** Hepatitis B disease is a liver disease caused by Hepatitis B virus. Short-term illness or acute hepatitis B develops within the first 6 months after exposure to virus. Symptoms include fever, tiredness, loss of hunger, dark coloured urine, clay coloured stools, pain in the muscles, joints, stomach and jaundice (yellow skin or eyes). Long-term or chronic hepatitis B is a lifelong illness that can cause cirrhosis (scarring of the liver), liver failure and liver cancer. Transmission of the virus takes place via blood, semen or other body fluids. It may also spread from

mother to child during birth, having sex, sharing needles and razor. Getting vaccinated is the best way to prevent hepatitis B.

**Haemophilus Influenzae Type B (Hib):** Hib is caused by by Haemophilus influenza type B bacteria. It mostly affects children younger than 5 years. Hib can cause serious infections in various parts of the body like meningitis (inflammation of the lining of the brain and spinal cord), bacteremia (infection of the bloodstream), pneumonia (lung infection) and epiglottitis (throat infection). Hib Infection may spread through droplets in the air, like when someone who has the bacteria in their nose or throat coughs or sneezes.

## **2. What are the important aspects to note before administering COMVAC 5®?**

- Child below 6 weeks of age should not be given Pentavalent vaccine
- Although serious side effects have not been reported, a child who has had a severe reaction to Pentavalent Vaccine earlier should not be given another dose
- Children with moderate or severe acute illness should not be administered Pentavalent Vaccine until their condition improves
- Known hypersensitivity reactions to any of the components of the vaccine

## **3. How is COMVAC 5® administered?**

- Vaccine can be administered intramuscularly in the anterolateral aspect of the thigh.
- As per the recommendation of Indian Academy of Pediatrics (IAP), Pentavalent vaccine should be administered at: 6 weeks, 10 weeks and 14 weeks.

## **4. What are the possible side effects from administering COMVAC 5®?**

Common side effects of Pentavalent vaccine are local swelling, pain and redness. Other symptoms include irritability, malaise and loss of appetite