

PATIENT INFORMATION

BOOSTRIX® (BOOST-rix)

Tetanus Toxoid, Reduced Diphtheria Toxoid and Acellular Pertussis Vaccine, Adsorbed

Read this information carefully before your preteen or teenager receives this vaccine.

- This information does not take the place of talking with your doctor, nurse, or other healthcare professional.
- Ask your healthcare professional for a copy of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Vaccine Information Sheets prior to immunization.

What is BOOSTRIX and what is it used for?

BOOSTRIX is a vaccine given to preteens or teenagers to prevent three serious diseases: diphtheria, tetanus (lockjaw), and pertussis (whooping cough). The vaccine works by causing the body to produce its own protection (antibodies) against these diseases. The vaccine cannot cause any of these diseases.

- **Diphtheria:** Diphtheria causes a thick covering in the back of the throat. It can lead to breathing problems, paralysis, heart failure, and even death.
- **Tetanus (Lockjaw):** Tetanus enters the body through cuts, scratches, or wounds in the skin. Tetanus can cause muscle stiffness, painful muscle spasms, seizures, and even death. The painful tightening of the muscles of the jaw, called "lockjaw," can prevent a person from opening his/her mouth or swallowing.
- **Pertussis (Whooping cough):** Pertussis is a highly infectious illness that causes severe spells of coughing that may interfere with normal breathing. In infants, the coughing is often accompanied by a "whooping" sound, and so pertussis is often called "whooping cough." Symptoms of pertussis in adolescents may at first seem like those of the common cold and often do not include the classic "whoop" seen in infants. Adolescents with pertussis may cough for weeks to months, and doctors may not recognize that the constant cough illness is caused by pertussis. Pertussis can also cause pneumonia, seizures, and brain damage.

Vaccination is the best way to protect against these diseases. As with any vaccine, BOOSTRIX may not protect 100% of individuals receiving the vaccine (especially those with immune system disorders).

How is BOOSTRIX given?

A single shot of BOOSTRIX should be given in the arm to preteens and teenagers 10 through 18 years of age.

Five years should have gone by since your preteen or teenager received a shot of a diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis vaccine in the recommended childhood vaccination series.

Who should not be given BOOSTRIX?

Before your preteen or teenager receives BOOSTRIX, you must tell your doctor or other healthcare professional if your preteen or teenager:

- is younger than 10 years of age or older than 18 years of age.
- previously had any allergic reaction to any vaccine that protects against diphtheria, tetanus, or pertussis diseases, any ingredient contained in BOOSTRIX (see list of ingredients), or latex. Signs of a severe allergic reaction may include hives, difficulty breathing, and swelling of the throat.
- experienced symptoms of brain or nervous system disorder within 7 days after receiving a pertussis-containing vaccine.

Also, tell your doctor if your preteen or teenager:

- had any of the following problems after a dose of a pertussis-containing vaccine:
 - a high temperature (105°F or higher) within 48 hours of vaccination.
 - a collapse or shock-like state within 48 hours of vaccination.
 - persistent crying lasting 3 hours or more within 48 hours of vaccination.
 - seizures with or without a fever within 3 days of vaccination.
- had Guillain-Barré syndrome after a vaccine containing tetanus toxoid.
- is pregnant or a nursing mother.
- has a moderate or severe illness with or without fever. A minor infection such as a cold should not be a problem, but talk to your doctor first.
- has a bleeding problem or bruises easily.
- is taking any other medicine.

What are the possible side effects of BOOSTRIX?

Any vaccine may have some side effects but it is possible that your preteen or teenager will have no side effects from vaccination. The most common side effects with BOOSTRIX were pain at the injection site, headache, and tiredness.

Other side effects that your preteen or teenager may experience include redness or swelling at the injection site, fever, and gastrointestinal (GI) symptoms such as nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and/or stomach pains. These effects usually clear up within a few days. If these events continue or become severe, tell your doctor.

As with any vaccine, there is an extremely small risk of allergic reactions. Hives, swelling of the throat, and difficulty in breathing are signs of an allergic reaction. If any of these events occur, you should seek treatment immediately. Such rare reactions usually occur before leaving the doctor's office.

Nervous system diseases have occurred with other tetanus-containing vaccines or tetanus- and diphtheria-containing vaccines. Other serious events including death have occurred after vaccinations; however, these risks are extremely small.

If you notice any other problems following vaccination, please inform your doctor.

What are the ingredients in BOOSTRIX?

BOOSTRIX contains noninfectious proteins from diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis bacteria. The vaccine also contains sodium chloride (NaCl), and aluminum salts. Low levels of formaldehyde and polysorbate 80 are present. This vaccine contains no thimerosal or any other preservatives.

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