

**ANNEX I**

**SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS**

## 1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms, suspension for injection  
Hepatitis B vaccine (recombinant DNA)

## 2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

One dose (0.5 mL) contains:

Hepatitis B virus surface antigen, recombinant (HBsAg) \* ..... 5 micrograms  
Adsorbed on amorphous aluminium hydroxyphosphate sulfate (0.25 milligram Al<sup>+</sup>)

\* produced in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (strain 2150-2-3) yeast by recombinant DNA technology.

This vaccine may contain traces of formaldehyde and potassium thiocyanate, which are used during the manufacturing process. See sections 4.3, 4.4 and 4.8.

Excipient(s) with known effect:

Sodium less than 1 mmol (23 mg) per dose.

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

## 3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Suspension for injection  
Slightly opaque white suspension.

## 4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

### 4.1 Therapeutic indications

HBVAXPRO is indicated for active immunisation against hepatitis B virus infection caused by all known subtypes in individuals from birth through 15 years of age considered at risk of exposure to hepatitis B virus.

**The specific at risk categories to be immunised are to be determined on the basis of the official recommendations.**

It can be expected that hepatitis D will also be prevented by immunisation with HBVAXPRO as hepatitis D (caused by the delta agent) does not occur in the absence of hepatitis B infection.

### 4.2 Posology and method of administration

#### Posology

Individuals from birth through 15 years of age: 1 dose (0.5 mL) at each injection:

#### Primary vaccination:

A course of vaccination should include at least three injections.

Two primary immunisation schedules can be recommended:

**0, 1, 6 months:** two injections with an interval of one month; a third injection 6 months after the first administration.

**0, 1, 2, 12 months:** three injections with an interval of one month; a fourth dose should be administered at 12 months.

It is recommended that the vaccine be administered in the schedules indicated. Infants receiving the compressed regimen (0, 1, 2 months dosing schedule) must receive the 12 month booster to induce higher antibody titres.

#### Booster:

#### Immunocompetent vaccinees

The need for a booster dose in healthy individuals who have received a full primary vaccination course has not been established. However, some local vaccination schedules currently include a recommendation for a booster dose and these should be respected.

#### Immunocompromised vaccinees (e.g. dialysis patients, transplant patients, AIDS Patients)

In vaccinees with an impaired immune system, administration of additional doses of vaccine should be considered if the antibody level against hepatitis B virus surface antigen (anti-HBsAg) is less than 10 IU/l.

#### Revaccination of nonresponders

When persons who do not respond to the primary vaccine series are revaccinated, 15-25 % produce an adequate antibody response after one additional dose and 30-50 % after three additional doses. However, because data are insufficient concerning the safety of hepatitis B vaccine when additional doses in excess of the recommended series are administered, revaccination following completion of the primary series is not routinely recommended. Revaccination should be considered for high-risk individuals, after weighing the benefits of vaccination against the potential risk of experiencing increased local or systemic adverse reactions.

#### Special dosage recommendations:

#### **Dosage recommendation for neonates of mothers who are hepatitis B virus carriers**

- At birth, one dose of hepatitis B immunoglobulin (within 24 hours).
- The first dose of the vaccine should be given within 7 days of birth and can be administered simultaneously with hepatitis B immunoglobulin but at a separate injection site.
- Subsequent doses of vaccine should be given according to the locally recommended vaccination schedule.

#### **Dosage recommendation for known or presumed exposure to hepatitis B virus (e.g. needlestick with contaminated needle)**

- Hepatitis B immunoglobulin should be given as soon as possible after exposure (within 24 hours).
- The first dose of the vaccine should be given within 7 days of exposure and can be administered simultaneously with hepatitis B immunoglobulin but at a separate injection site.
- Serologic testing is also recommended, with the administration of subsequent doses of vaccine, if necessary, (i.e. according to the serologic status of the patient) for short and long term protection.

- In the case of unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated individuals, additional doses should be given as in the recommended immunisation schedule. The accelerated schedule including the 12 month booster dose can be proposed.

#### Method of administration

This vaccine should be administered intramuscularly.

The anterolateral thigh is the preferred site for injection in neonates and infants. The deltoid muscle is the preferred site for injection in children and adolescents.

Do not inject intravascularly.

Exceptionally, the vaccine may be administered subcutaneously in patients with thrombocytopaenia or bleeding disorders.

Precautions to be taken before handling or administering the product: see section 6.6.

### **4.3 Contraindications**

- History of hypersensitivity to the active substance, or to any of the excipients, or trace residuals (e.g. formaldehyde and potassium thiocyanate), see sections 6.1 and 6.2.
- Vaccination should be postponed in individuals with a severe febrile illness or acute infection.

### **4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use**

#### Traceability

In order to improve the traceability of biological medicinal products, the name and the batch number of the administered product should be clearly recorded.

As with all injectable vaccines, appropriate medical treatment should always be readily available in case of rare anaphylactic reactions following the administration of the vaccine (see section 4.8).

This vaccine may contain traces of formaldehyde and potassium thiocyanate, which are used during the manufacturing process. Therefore, hypersensitivity reactions may occur (see sections 2 and 4.8).

Use caution when vaccinating latex-sensitive individuals since the vial stopper contains dry natural latex rubber that may cause allergic reactions.

For clinical or laboratory monitoring regarding immunocompromised individuals or individuals with known or presumed exposure to hepatitis B virus, see section 4.2.

The potential risk of apnoea and the need for respiratory monitoring for 48 to 72 hours should be considered when administering the primary immunisation series to very premature infants (born  $\leq 28$  weeks of gestation) and particularly for those with a previous history of respiratory immaturity (see section 4.8). As the benefit of vaccination is high in this group of infants, vaccination should not be withheld or delayed.

Because of the long incubation period of hepatitis B, it is possible for unrecognised hepatitis B infection to be present at the time of vaccination. The vaccine may not prevent hepatitis B infection in such cases.

The vaccine will not prevent infection caused by other agents such as hepatitis A, hepatitis C and hepatitis E and other pathogens known to infect the liver.

Caution should be exercised when prescribing to pregnant or breast-feeding women (see section 4.6).

Excipient(s) with known effect:

This medicinal product contains less than 1mmol sodium (23 mg) per dose, and is considered to be essentially sodium free.

#### **4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction**

This vaccine can be administered:

- with hepatitis B immunoglobulin, at a separate injection site.
- to complete a primary immunisation course or as a booster dose in subjects who have previously received another hepatitis B vaccine.
- concomitantly with other vaccines, using separate sites and syringes.

The concomitant administration of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PREVENAR) given with hepatitis B vaccine using the 0, 1 and 6 and 0, 1, 2 and 12 month schedules has not been sufficiently studied.

#### **4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation**

##### Fertility:

HBVAXPRO has not been evaluated in fertility studies.

##### Pregnancy:

There is no clinical data on the use of HBVAXPRO on pregnant women.

The vaccine should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the foetus.

##### Breast-feeding:

There is no clinical data on the use of HBVAXPRO on breast-feeding women.

#### **4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines**

No studies on the effects on the ability to drive and use machines have been performed. However, HBVAXPRO is expected to have no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

#### **4.8 Undesirable effects**

##### ***a. Summary of the safety profile***

The most common side effects seen are injection-site reactions: transient soreness, erythema, induration.

##### ***b. Tabulated summary of adverse reactions***

The following undesirable effects have been reported following the widespread use of the vaccine.

As with other hepatitis B vaccines, in many instances, the causal relationship to the vaccine has not been established.

<b>Adverse reactions</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
<i>General disorders and administration site conditions</i>	
Local reactions (injection site): Transient soreness, Erythema, Induration	Common ( $\geq 1/100$ to, $< 1/10$ )
Fatigue, Fever, Malaise, Influenza-like symptoms	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )
<i>Blood and the lymphatic system disorders</i>	
Thrombocytopaenia, Lymphadenopathy	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )
<i>Immune system disorders</i>	
Serum sickness, Anaphylaxis, Polyarteritis nodosa	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )
<i>Nervous system disorders</i>	
Paresthesia, Paralysis (including Bell's palsy, facial paralysis), Peripheral neuropathies (polyradiculoneuritis, Guillain Barre Syndrome), Neuritis (including optical neuritis), Myelitis (including transverse Myelitis), Encephalitis, Demyelinating disease of the central nervous system, Exacerbation of multiple sclerosis, Multiple sclerosis, Seizure, Headache, Dizziness, Syncope	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )
<i>Eye Disorders</i>	
Uveitis	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )
<i>Vascular disorders</i>	
Hypotension, Vasculitis	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )
<i>Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders</i>	
Bronchospasm-like symptoms	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )
<i>Gastrointestinal disorders</i>	
Vomiting, Nausea, Diarrhoea, Abdominal pain	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )
<i>Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders</i>	
Rash, Alopecia, Pruritus, Urticaria, Erythema multiforme, Angioedema, Eczema	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )
<i>Musculoskeletal, connective tissue and bone disorders</i>	
Arthralgia, Arthritis, Myalgia, Pain in extremity	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )
<i>Investigations</i>	
Elevation of liver enzymes	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )

### ***c. Other special population***

Apnoea in very premature infants (born  $\leq 28$  weeks of gestation) (see section 4.4).

#### **Reporting of suspected adverse reactions**

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via the national reporting system listed in [Appendix V](#).

## **4.9 Overdose**

There have been reports of administration of higher than recommended doses of HBVAXPRO. In general, the adverse event profile reported with overdose was comparable to that observed with the recommended dose of HBVAXPRO.

## **5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES**

### **5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties**

Pharmacotherapeutic group: anti-infectious, ATC code: J07BC01

The vaccine induces specific humoral antibodies against hepatitis B virus surface antigen (anti-HBsAg). Development of an antibody titre against hepatitis B virus surface antigen (anti-HBsAg) equal to or greater than 10 IU/l measured 1 to 2 months after the last injection correlates with protection to hepatitis B virus infection.

In clinical trials, 96 % of 1,497 healthy infants, children, adolescents and adults given a 3 dose course of a previous formulation of Merck's recombinant hepatitis B vaccine developed a protective level of antibodies against hepatitis B virus surface antigen ( $\geq 10$  IU/l). In two infant trials using different dosing schedules and concomitant vaccines, the proportion of infants with protective levels of antibodies were 97.5 % and 97.2 % with geometric mean titres of 214 and 297 IU/l, respectively.

The protective efficacy of a dose of hepatitis B immunoglobulin at birth followed by 3 doses of a previous formulation of Merck's recombinant hepatitis B vaccine has been demonstrated for neonates born to mothers positive for both hepatitis B virus surface antigen (HBsAg) and hepatitis B virus e antigen (HBeAg). Among 130 vaccinated infants, the estimated efficacy in prevention of chronic hepatitis B infection was 95 % as compared to the infection rate in untreated historical controls.

Although the duration of the protective effect of a previous formulation of Merck's recombinant hepatitis B vaccine in healthy vaccinees is unknown, follow-up over 5-9 years of approximately 3,000 high-risk subjects given a similar plasma-derived vaccine has revealed no cases of clinically apparent hepatitis B infection.

In addition, persistence of vaccine-induced immunologic memory for hepatitis B virus surface antigen (HBsAg) has been demonstrated through an anamnestic antibody response to a booster dose of a previous formulation of Merck's recombinant hepatitis B vaccine. The duration of the protective effect in healthy vaccinees is unknown. The need for a booster dose of HBVAXPRO is not yet defined beyond the 12 month booster dose required for the 0, 1, 2 compressed schedule.

#### *Reduced risk of Hepatocellular Carcinoma*

Hepatocellular carcinoma is a serious complication of hepatitis B virus infection. Studies have demonstrated the link between chronic hepatitis B infection and hepatocellular carcinoma and 80 % of hepatocellular carcinomas are caused by hepatitis B virus infection. Hepatitis B vaccine has been recognised as the first anti-cancer vaccine because it can prevent primary liver cancer.

### **5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties**

Not applicable.

### **5.3 Preclinical safety data**

Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted.

## **6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS**

### **6.1 List of excipients**

Sodium chloride  
Borax  
Water for injections

### **6.2 Incompatibilities**

In the absence of compatibility studies, this medicinal product must not be mixed with other medicinal products.

### **6.3 Shelf life**

3 years.

### **6.4 Special precautions for storage**

Store in a refrigerator (2 °C – 8 °C).  
Do not freeze. Store in the original package in order to protect from light.

HBVAXPRO should be administered as soon as possible after being removed from refrigeration. HBVAXPRO can be administered provided total (cumulative multiple excursion) time out of refrigeration (at temperatures between 8°C and 25°C) does not exceed 72 hours. Cumulative multiple excursions between 0°C and 2°C are also permitted as long as the total time between 0°C and 2°C does not exceed 72 hours. These are not, however, recommendations for storage.

### **6.5 Nature and contents of container**

0.5 mL of suspension in vial (glass) with stopper (gray butyl rubber) and aluminum seals with plastic flip caps. Pack size of 1, 10.  
Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

### **6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling**

The vaccine should be inspected visually in order to detect any appearance of precipitate or discolouring of the content prior to administration. If these conditions exist, the product should not be administered. Before use, the vial should be well shaken.  
Once the vial has been penetrated, the withdrawn vaccine should be used promptly, and the vial must be discarded.

Any unused medicinal product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.



**7. MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

Merck Sharp & Dohme B.V.  
Waarderweg 39  
2031 BN Haarlem  
The Netherlands

**8. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)**

EU/1/01/183/001  
EU/1/01/183/018

**9. DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION**

Date of first authorisation: 27/04/2001  
Date of last renewal: 17/03/2011

**10. DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT**

Detailed information on this product is available on the website of the European Medicines Agency:  
<http://www.ema.europa.eu>.

## 1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms, suspension for injection in pre-filled syringe  
Hepatitis B vaccine (recombinant DNA)

## 2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

One dose (0.5 mL) contains:

Hepatitis B virus surface antigen, recombinant (HBsAg) \* ..... 5 micrograms  
Adsorbed on amorphous aluminium hydroxyphosphate sulfate (0.25 milligram Al<sup>+</sup>)

\* produced in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (strain 2150-2-3) yeast by recombinant DNA technology.

This vaccine may contain traces of formaldehyde and potassium thiocyanate, which are used during the manufacturing process. See sections 4.3, 4.4 and 4.8.

Excipient(s) with known effect:

Sodium less than 1mmol (23 mg) per dose.

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1

## 3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Suspension for injection in pre-filled syringe  
Slightly opaque white suspension.

## 4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

### 4.1 Therapeutic indications

HBVAXPRO is indicated for active immunisation against hepatitis B virus infection caused by all known subtypes in individuals from birth through 15 years of age considered at risk of exposure to hepatitis B virus.

**The specific at risk categories to be immunised are to be determined on the basis of the official recommendations.**

It can be expected that hepatitis D will also be prevented by immunisation with HBVAXPRO as hepatitis D (caused by the delta agent) does not occur in the absence of hepatitis B infection.

### 4.2 Posology and method of administration

#### Posology

Individuals from birth through 15 years of age: 1 dose (0.5 mL) at each injection.

#### Primary vaccination:

A course of vaccination should include at least three injections.

Two primary immunisation schedules can be recommended:

**0, 1, 6 months:** two injections with an interval of one month; a third injection 6 months after the first administration.

**0, 1, 2, 12 months:** three injections with an interval of one month; a fourth dose should be administered at 12 months.

It is recommended that the vaccine be administered in the schedules indicated. Infants receiving the compressed regimen (0, 1, 2 months dosing schedule) must receive the 12 month booster to induce higher antibody titres.

#### Booster:

##### Immunocompetent vaccinees

The need for a booster dose in healthy individuals who have received a full primary vaccination course has not been established. However, some local vaccination schedules currently include a recommendation for a booster dose and these should be respected.

##### Immunocompromised vaccinees (e.g. dialysis patients, transplant patients, AIDS Patients)

In vaccinees with an impaired immune system, administration of additional doses of vaccine should be considered if the antibody level against hepatitis B virus surface antigen (anti-HBsAg) is less than 10 IU/l.

##### Revaccination of nonresponders

When persons who do not respond to the primary vaccine series are revaccinated, 15-25 % produce an adequate antibody response after one additional dose and 30-50 % after three additional doses. However, because data are insufficient concerning the safety of hepatitis B vaccine when additional doses in excess of the recommended series are administered, revaccination following completion of the primary series is not routinely recommended. Revaccination should be considered for high-risk individuals, after weighing the benefits of vaccination against the potential risk of experiencing increased local or systemic adverse reactions.

#### Special dosage recommendations:

##### **Dosage recommendations for neonates born to mothers who are hepatitis B virus carriers**

- At birth, one dose of hepatitis B immunoglobulin (within 24 hours).
- The first dose of the vaccine should be given within 7 days of birth and can be administered simultaneously with hepatitis B immunoglobulin at birth, but at a separate injection site.
- Subsequent doses of vaccine should be given according to the locally recommended vaccination schedule.

##### **Dosage recommendation for known or presumed exposure to hepatitis B virus (e.g. needlestick with contaminated needle)**

- Hepatitis B immunoglobulin should be given as soon as possible after exposure (within 24 hours).
- The first dose of the vaccine should be given within 7 days of exposure and can be administered simultaneously with hepatitis B immunoglobulin but at a separate injection site.

- Serologic testing is also recommended, with the administration of subsequent doses of vaccine, if necessary, (i.e. according to the serologic status of the patient) for short and long term protection.
- In the case of unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated individuals, additional doses should be given as in the recommended immunisation schedule. The accelerated schedule including the 12 month booster dose can be proposed.

#### Method of administration

This vaccine should be administered intramuscularly.

The anterolateral thigh is the preferred site for injection in neonates and infants. The deltoid muscle is the preferred site for injection in children and adolescents.

Do not inject intravascularly.

Exceptionally, the vaccine may be administered subcutaneously in patients with thrombocytopaenia or bleeding disorders.

Precautions to be taken before handling or administering the product: see section 6.6.

### **4.3 Contraindications**

- History of hypersensitivity to the active substance, or to any of the excipients, or trace residuals (e.g. formaldehyde and potassium thiocyanate), see sections 6.1 and 6.2.
- Vaccination should be postponed in individuals with a severe febrile illness or acute infection.

### **4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use**

#### Traceability

In order to improve the traceability of biological medicinal products, the name and the batch number of the administered product should be clearly recorded.

As with all injectable vaccines, appropriate medical treatment should always be readily available in case of rare anaphylactic reactions following the administration of the vaccine (see section 4.8).

This vaccine may contain traces of formaldehyde and potassium thiocyanate which are used during the manufacturing process. Therefore, hypersensitivity reactions may occur (see sections 2 and 4.8).

Use caution when vaccinating latex-sensitive individuals since the syringe plunger stopper and tip cap contain dry natural latex rubber that may cause allergic reactions.

For clinical or laboratory monitoring regarding immunocompromised individuals or individuals with known or presumed exposure to hepatitis B virus, see section 4.2.

The potential risk of apnoea and the need for respiratory monitoring for 48 to 72 hours should be considered when administering the primary immunisation series to very premature infants (born  $\leq 28$  weeks of gestation) and particularly for those with a previous history of respiratory immaturity (see section 4.8). As the benefit of vaccination is high in this group of infants, vaccination should not be withheld or delayed.

Because of the long incubation period of hepatitis B, it is possible for unrecognised hepatitis B infection to be present at the time of vaccination. The vaccine may not prevent hepatitis B infection in such cases.

The vaccine will not prevent infection caused by other agents such as hepatitis A, hepatitis C and hepatitis E and other pathogens known to infect the liver.

Caution should be exercised when prescribing to pregnant or breast-feeding women (see section 4.6).

Excipient(s) with known effect:

This medicinal product contains less than 1mmol sodium (23 mg) per dose, and is considered to be essentially sodium free.

#### **4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction**

This vaccine can be administered:

- with hepatitis B immunoglobulin, at a separate injection site.
- to complete a primary immunisation course or as a booster dose in subjects who have previously received another hepatitis B vaccine.
- concomitantly with other vaccines, using separate sites and syringes.

The concomitant administration of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PREVENAR) given with hepatitis B vaccine using the 0, 1 and 6 and 0, 1, 2 and 12 month schedules has not been sufficiently studied.

#### **4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation**

Fertility:

HBVAXPRO has not been evaluated in fertility studies.

Pregnancy:

There is no clinical data on the use of HBVAXPRO on pregnant women.

The vaccine should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the foetus.

Breast-feeding:

There is no clinical data on the use of HBVAXPRO on breast-feeding women.

#### **4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines**

No studies on the effects on the ability to drive and use machines have been performed. However, HBVAXPRO is expected to have no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

#### **4.8 Undesirable effects**

##### ***a. Summary of the safety profile***

The most common side effects seen are injection-site reactions: transient soreness, erythema, induration.

##### ***b. Tabulated summary of adverse reactions***

The following undesirable effects have been reported following the widespread use of the vaccine.

As with other hepatitis B vaccines, in many instances, the causal relationship to the vaccine has not been established.

<b>Adverse reactions</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
<i>General disorders and administration site conditions</i>	
Local reactions (injection site): Transient soreness, Erythema, Induration	Common (≥1/100 to, <1/10)
Fatigue, Fever, Malaise, Influenza-like symptoms	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Blood and the lymphatic system disorders</i>	
Thrombocytopaenia, Lymphadenopathy	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Immune system disorders</i>	
Serum sickness, Anaphylaxis, Polyarteritis nodosa	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Nervous system disorders</i>	
Paresthesia, Paralysis (including Bell's palsy, facial paralysis), Peripheral neuropathies (polyradiculoneuritis, Guillain Barre Syndrome), Neuritis (including optical neuritis), Myelitis (including transverse Myelitis), Encephalitis, Demyelinating disease of the central nervous system, Exacerbation of multiple sclerosis, Multiple sclerosis, Seizure, Headache, Dizziness, Syncope	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Eye disorders</i>	
Uveitis	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Vascular disorders</i>	
Hypotension, Vasculitis	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders</i>	
Bronchospasm-like symptoms	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Gastrointestinal disorders</i>	
Vomiting, Nausea, Diarrhoea, Abdominal pain	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders</i>	
Rash, Alopecia, Pruritus, Urticaria, Erythema multiforme, Angioedema, Eczema	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Musculoskeletal, connective tissue and bone disorders</i>	
Arthralgia, Arthritis, Myalgia, Pain in extremity	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Investigations</i>	
Elevation of liver enzymes	Very rare (<1/10,000)

### ***c. Other special population***

Apnoea in very premature infants (born ≤ 28 weeks of gestation) (see section 4.4).

### **Reporting of suspected adverse reactions**

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via the national reporting system listed in [Appendix V](#).

## **4.9 Overdose**

There have been reports of administration of higher than recommended doses of HBVAXPRO. In general, the adverse event profile reported with overdose was comparable to that observed with the recommended dose of HBVAXPRO.

## **5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES**

### **5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties**

Pharmacotherapeutic group: anti-infectious, ATC code: J07BC01

The vaccine induces specific humoral antibodies against hepatitis B virus surface antigen (anti-HBsAg). Development of an antibody titre against hepatitis B virus surface antigen (anti-HBsAg) equal to or greater than 10 IU/l measured 1 to 2 months after the last injection correlates with protection to hepatitis B virus infection.

In clinical trials, 96 % of 1,497 healthy infants, children, adolescents and adults given a 3 dose course of a previous formulation of Merck's recombinant hepatitis B vaccine developed a protective level of antibodies against hepatitis B virus surface antigen ( $\geq 10$  IU/l). In two infant trials using different dosing schedules and concomitant vaccines, the proportion of infants with protective levels of antibodies were 97.5 % and 97.2 % with geometric mean titres of 214 and 297 IU/l, respectively.

The protective efficacy of a dose of hepatitis B immunoglobulin at birth followed by 3 doses of a previous formulation of Merck's recombinant hepatitis B vaccine has been demonstrated for neonates born to mothers positive for both hepatitis B virus surface antigen (HBsAg) and hepatitis B virus e antigen (HBeAg). Among 130 vaccinated infants, the estimated efficacy in prevention of chronic hepatitis B infection was 95 % as compared to the infection rate in untreated historical controls.

Although the duration of the protective effect of a previous formulation of Merck's recombinant hepatitis B vaccine in healthy vaccinees is unknown, follow-up over 5-9 years of approximately 3,000 high-risk subjects given a similar plasma-derived vaccine has revealed no cases of clinically apparent hepatitis B infection.

In addition, persistence of vaccine-induced immunologic memory for hepatitis B virus surface antigen (HBsAg) has been demonstrated through an anamnestic antibody response to a booster dose of a previous formulation of Merck's recombinant hepatitis B vaccine. The duration of the protective effect in healthy vaccinees is unknown. The need for a booster dose of HBVAXPRO is not yet defined beyond the 12 month booster dose required for the 0, 1, 2 compressed schedule.

#### *Reduced risk of Hepatocellular Carcinoma*

Hepatocellular carcinoma is a serious complication of hepatitis B virus infection. Studies have demonstrated the link between chronic hepatitis B infection and hepatocellular carcinoma and 80 % of hepatocellular carcinomas are caused by hepatitis B virus infection. Hepatitis B vaccine has been recognised as the first anti-cancer vaccine because it can prevent primary liver cancer.

### **5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties**

Not applicable.

### **5.3 Preclinical safety data**

Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted.

## **6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS**

### **6.1 List of excipients**

Sodium chloride  
Borax  
Water for injections

### **6.2 Incompatibilities**

In the absence of compatibility studies, this medicinal product must not be mixed with other medicinal products.

### **6.3 Shelf life**

3 years.

### **6.4 Special precautions for storage**

Store in a refrigerator (2 °C – 8 °C).  
Do not freeze. Store in the original package in order to protect from light.

HBVAXPRO should be administered as soon as possible after being removed from refrigeration. HBVAXPRO can be administered provided total (cumulative multiple excursion) time out of refrigeration (at temperatures between 8°C and 25°C) does not exceed 72 hours. Cumulative multiple excursions between 0°C and 2°C are also permitted as long as the total time between 0°C and 2°C does not exceed 72 hours. These are not, however, recommendations for storage.

### **6.5 Nature and contents of container**

0.5 mL of suspension in pre-filled syringe (glass) without needle with a plunger stopper (gray chlorobutyl or bromobutyl). Pack size of 1, 10, 20, 50.  
0.5 mL of suspension in pre-filled syringe (glass) with 1 separate needle with a plunger stopper (gray chlorobutyl or bromobutyl). Pack size of 1, 10.  
0.5 mL of suspension in pre-filled syringe (glass) with 2 separate needles with a plunger stopper (gray chlorobutyl or bromobutyl). Pack size of 1, 10, 20, 50.  
Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

### **6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling**

The vaccine should be inspected visually in order to detect any appearance of precipitate or discolouring of the content prior to administration. If these conditions exist, the product should not be administered. Before use, the syringe should be well shaken.  
Hold the syringe barrel and attach the needle by twisting in clockwise direction, until the needle fits securely on the syringe.  
Any unused medicinal product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.



**7. MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

Merck Sharp & Dohme B.V.  
Waarderweg 39  
2031 BN Haarlem  
The Netherlands

**8. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)**

EU/1/01/183/004  
EU/1/01/183/005  
EU/1/01/183/020  
EU/1/01/183/021  
EU/1/01/183/022  
EU/1/01/183/023  
EU/1/01/183/024  
EU/1/01/183/025  
EU/1/01/183/030  
EU/1/01/183/031

**9. DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION**

Date of first authorisation: 27/04/2001  
Date of last renewal: 17/03/2011

**10. DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT**

Detailed information on this product is available on the website of the European Medicines Agency  
<http://www.ema.europa.eu>.

## 1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms, suspension for injection  
Hepatitis B vaccine (recombinant DNA)

## 2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

One dose (1 mL) contains:

Hepatitis B virus surface antigen, recombinant (HBsAg) \* ..... 10 micrograms  
Adsorbed on amorphous aluminium hydroxyphosphate sulfate (0.50 milligram Al<sup>+</sup>)

\* produced in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (strain 2150-2-3) yeast by recombinant DNA technology.

This vaccine may contain traces of formaldehyde and potassium thiocyanate which are used during the manufacturing process. See sections 4.3, 4.4 and 4.8.

Excipient(s) with known effect:

Sodium less than 1mmol (23 mg) per dose.

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

## 3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Suspension for injection  
Slightly opaque white suspension.

## 4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

### 4.1 Therapeutic indications

HBVAXPRO is indicated for active immunisation against hepatitis B virus infection caused by all known subtypes in individuals 16 years of age or more considered at risk of exposure to hepatitis B virus.

**The specific at risk categories to be immunised are to be determined on the basis of the official recommendations.**

It can be expected that hepatitis D will also be prevented by immunisation with HBVAXPRO as hepatitis D (caused by the delta agent) does not occur in the absence of hepatitis B infection.

### 4.2 Posology and method of administration

#### Posology

Individuals 16 years of age or more: 1 dose (1 mL) at each injection.

#### Primary vaccination:

A course of vaccination should include at least three injections.

Two primary immunisation schedules can be recommended:

**0, 1, 6 months:** two injections with an interval of one month; a third injection 6 months after the first administration.

**0, 1, 2, 12 months:** three injections with an interval of one month; a fourth dose should be administered at 12 months.

It is recommended that the vaccine be administered in the schedules indicated. Those receiving the compressed regimen (0, 1, 2 months dosing schedule) must receive the 12 month booster to induce higher antibody titres.

#### Booster:

#### Immunocompetent vaccinees

The need for a booster dose in healthy individuals who have received a full primary vaccination course has not been established. However, some local vaccination schedules currently include a recommendation for a booster dose and these should be respected.

#### Immunocompromised vaccinees (e.g. dialysis patients, transplant patients, AIDS Patients)

In vaccinees with an impaired immune system, administration of additional doses of vaccine should be considered if the antibody level against hepatitis B virus surface antigen (anti-HBsAg) is less than 10 IU/l.

#### Revaccination of nonresponders

When persons who do not respond to the primary vaccine series are revaccinated, 15-25 % produce an adequate antibody response after one additional dose and 30-50 % after three additional doses. However, because data are insufficient concerning the safety of hepatitis B vaccine when additional doses in excess of the recommended series are administered, revaccination following completion of the primary series is not routinely recommended. Revaccination should be considered for high-risk individuals, after weighing the benefits of vaccination against the potential risk of experiencing increased local or systemic adverse reactions.

#### Special dosage recommendations for known or presumed exposure to hepatitis B virus (e.g. needlestick with contaminated needle):

- Hepatitis B immunoglobulin should be given as soon as possible after exposure (within 24 hours).
- The first dose of the vaccine should be given within 7 days of exposure and can be administered simultaneously with hepatitis B immunoglobulin, but at a separate injection site.
- Serologic testing is also recommended, with the administration of subsequent doses of vaccine, if necessary, (i.e. according to the serologic status of the patient) for short and long term protection.
- In the case of unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated individuals, additional doses should be given as in the recommended immunisation schedule. The accelerated schedule including the 12 month booster dose can be proposed.

Individuals less than 16 years of age:

HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms is not indicated in this subset of paediatric population.

The appropriate strength for administration to individuals from birth through 15 years of age is HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms.

### Method of administration

This vaccine should be administered intramuscularly.

The deltoid muscle is the preferred site for injection in adults and adolescents.

Do not inject intravascularly.

Exceptionally, the vaccine may be administered subcutaneously in patients with thrombocytopaenia or bleeding disorders.

Precautions to be taken before handling or administering the product: see section 6.6.

### **4.3 Contraindications**

- History of hypersensitivity to the active substance, or to any of the excipients, or trace residuals (e.g. formaldehyde and potassium thiocyanate), see sections 6.1 and 6.2.
- Vaccination should be postponed in individuals with a severe febrile illness or acute infection.

### **4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use**

#### Traceability

In order to improve the traceability of biological medicinal products, the name and the batch number of the administered product should be clearly recorded.

As with all injectable vaccines, appropriate medical treatment should always be readily available in case of rare anaphylactic reactions following the administration of the vaccine (see section 4.8).

This vaccine may contain traces of formaldehyde and potassium thiocyanate which are used during the manufacturing process. Therefore, hypersensitivity reactions may occur (see sections 2 and 4.8).

Use caution when vaccinating latex-sensitive individuals since the vial stopper contains dry natural latex rubber that may cause allergic reactions.

For clinical or laboratory monitoring regarding immunocompromised individuals or individuals with known or presumed exposure to hepatitis B virus, see section 4.2.

A number of factors have been observed to reduce the immune response to hepatitis B vaccines. These factors include older age, male gender, obesity, smoking, route of administration and some chronic underlying diseases. Consideration should be given to serological testing of those subjects who may be at risk of not achieving seroprotection following a complete course of HBVAXPRO. Additional doses may need to be considered for persons who do not respond or have a sub-optimal response to a course of vaccinations.

Because of the long incubation period of hepatitis B, it is possible for unrecognised hepatitis B infection to be present at the time of vaccination. The vaccine may not prevent hepatitis B infection in such cases.

The vaccine will not prevent infection caused by other agents such as hepatitis A, hepatitis C and hepatitis E and other pathogens known to infect the liver.

Caution should be exercised when prescribing to pregnant or breast-feeding women (see section 4.6).

Excipient(s) with known effect:

This medicinal product contains less than 1mmol sodium (23 mg) per dose, and is considered to be essentially sodium free.

#### **4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction**

This vaccine can be administered:

- with hepatitis B immunoglobulin, at a separate injection site.
- to complete a primary immunisation course or as a booster dose in subjects who have previously received another hepatitis B vaccine.
- concomitantly with other vaccines, using separate sites and syringes.

#### **4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation**

##### Fertility:

HBVAXPRO has not been evaluated in fertility studies.

##### Pregnancy:

There is no clinical data on the use of HBVAXPRO in pregnant women

The vaccine should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the foetus.

##### Breast-feeding:

There is no clinical data on the use of HBVAXPRO on breast-feeding women.

#### **4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines**

No studies on the effects on the ability to drive and use machines have been performed. However, HBVAXPRO is expected to have no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

#### **4.8 Undesirable effects**

##### ***a. Summary of the safety profile***

The most common side effects seen are injection-site reactions: transient soreness, erythema, induration.

##### ***b. Tabulated summary of adverse reactions***

The following undesirable effects have been reported following the widespread use of the vaccine.

As with other hepatitis B vaccines, in many instances, the causal relationship to the vaccine has not been established.

<b>Adverse reactions</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
<i>General disorders and administration site conditions</i>	
Local reactions (injection site): Transient soreness, Erythema, Induration	Common (≥1/100 to, <1/10)
Fatigue, Fever, Malaise, Influenza-like symptoms	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Blood and the lymphatic system disorders</i>	
Thrombocytopaenia, Lymphadenopathy	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Immune system disorders</i>	
Serum sickness, Anaphylaxis, Polyarteritis nodosa	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Nervous system disorders</i>	
Paresthesia, Paralysis (including Bell's palsy, facial paralysis), Peripheral neuropathies (polyradiculoneuritis, Guillain Barre Syndrome), Neuritis (including optical neuritis), Myelitis (including transverse Myelitis), Encephalitis, Demyelinating disease of the central nervous system, Exacerbation of multiple sclerosis, Multiple sclerosis, Seizure, Headache, Dizziness, Syncope	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Eye disorders</i>	
Uveitis	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Vascular disorders</i>	
Hypotension, Vasculitis	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders</i>	
Bronchospasm-like symptoms	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Gastrointestinal disorders</i>	
Vomiting, Nausea, Diarrhoea, Abdominal pain	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders</i>	
Rash, Alopecia, Pruritus, Urticaria, Erythema multiforme, Angioedema, Eczema	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Musculoskeletal, connective tissue and bone disorders</i>	
Arthralgia, Arthritis, Myalgia, Pain in extremity	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Investigations</i>	
Elevation of liver enzymes	Very rare (<1/10,000)

#### Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via the national reporting system listed in [Appendix V](#).

## **4.9 Overdose**

There have been reports of administration of higher than recommended doses of HBVAXPRO. In general, the adverse event profile reported with overdose was comparable to that observed with the recommended dose of HBVAXPRO.

## **5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES**

### **5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties**

Pharmacotherapeutic group: anti-infectious, ATC code: J07BC01

The vaccine induces specific humoral antibodies against hepatitis B virus surface antigen (anti-HBsAg). Development of an antibody titre against hepatitis B virus surface antigen (anti-HBsAg) equal to or greater than 10 IU/l measured 1 to 2 months after the last injection correlates with protection to hepatitis B virus infection.

In clinical trials, 96 % of 1,497 healthy infants, children, adolescents and adults given a 3 dose course of a previous formulation of Merck's recombinant hepatitis B vaccine developed a protective level of antibodies against hepatitis B virus surface antigen ( $\geq 10$  IU/l). In two trials conducted in older adolescents and adults, 95.6-97.5 % of vaccinees developed a protective level of antibodies, with geometric mean titres in these trials ranging from 535 – 793 IU/l.

Although the duration of the protective effect of a previous formulation of Merck's recombinant hepatitis B vaccine in healthy vaccinees is unknown, follow-up over 5-9 years of approximately 3,000 high-risk subjects given a similar plasma-derived vaccine has revealed no cases of clinically apparent hepatitis B infection.

In addition, persistence of vaccine-induced immunologic memory for hepatitis B virus surface antigen (HBsAg) has been demonstrated through an anamnestic antibody response to a booster dose of a previous formulation of Merck's recombinant hepatitis B vaccine in healthy adults. The duration of the protective effect in healthy vaccinees is unknown. The need for a booster dose of HBVAXPRO is not yet defined beyond the 12 month booster dose required for the 0, 1, 2 compressed schedule.

#### *Reduced risk of Hepatocellular Carcinoma*

Hepatocellular carcinoma is a serious complication of hepatitis B virus infection. Studies have demonstrated the link between chronic hepatitis B infection and hepatocellular carcinoma and 80 % of hepatocellular carcinomas are caused by hepatitis B virus infection. Hepatitis B vaccine has been recognised as the first anti-cancer vaccine because it can prevent primary liver cancer.

### **5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties**

Not applicable.

### **5.3 Preclinical safety data**

Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted.

## **6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS**

### **6.1 List of excipients**

Sodium chloride  
Borax  
Water for injections

### **6.2 Incompatibilities**

In the absence of compatibility studies, this medicinal product must not be mixed with other medicinal products.

### **6.3 Shelf life**

3 years.

### **6.4 Special precautions for storage**

Store in a refrigerator (2 °C – 8 °C).

Do not freeze. Store in the original package in order to protect from light.

HBVAXPRO should be administered as soon as possible after being removed from refrigeration. HBVAXPRO can be administered provided total (cumulative multiple excursion) time out of refrigeration (at temperatures between 8°C and 25°C) does not exceed 72 hours. Cumulative multiple excursions between 0°C and 2°C are also permitted as long as the total time between 0°C and 2°C does not exceed 72 hours. These are not, however, recommendations for storage.

### **6.5 Nature and contents of container**

1 mL of suspension in vial (glass) with stopper (gray butyl rubber) and aluminum seals with plastic flip caps. Pack size of 1, 10.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

### **6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling**

The vaccine should be inspected visually in order to detect any appearance of precipitate or discolouring of the content prior to administration. If these conditions exist, the product should not be administered.

Before use, the vial should be well shaken.

Once the vial has been penetrated, the withdrawn vaccine should be used promptly, and the vial must be discarded.

Any unused medicinal product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

## **7. MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

Merck Sharp & Dohme B.V.  
Waarderweg 39  
2031 BN Haarlem  
The Netherlands

## **8. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)**

EU/1/01/183/007  
EU/1/01/183/008

## **9. DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION**

Date of first authorisation: 27/04/2001



Date of latest renewal: 17/03/2011

#### **10. DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT**

Detailed information on this product is available on the website of the European Medicines Agency  
<http://www.ema.europa.eu>.

## 1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms, suspension for injection in pre-filled syringe  
Hepatitis B vaccine (recombinant DNA)

## 2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

One dose (1 mL) contains:

Hepatitis B virus surface antigen, recombinant (HBsAg) \* ..... 10 micrograms  
Adsorbed on amorphous aluminium hydroxyphosphate sulfate (0.50 milligram Al<sup>+</sup>)

\* produced in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (strain 2150-2-3) yeast by recombinant DNA technology.

This vaccine may contain traces of formaldehyde and potassium thiocyanate which are used during the manufacturing process. See sections 4.3, 4.4 and 4.8.

Excipient(s) with known effect:

Sodium less than 1mmol (23 mg) per dose.

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

## 3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Suspension for injection in pre-filled syringe  
Slightly opaque white suspension.

## 4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

### 4.1 Therapeutic indications

HBVAXPRO is indicated for active immunisation against hepatitis B virus infection caused by all known subtypes in individuals 16 years of age or more considered at risk of exposure to hepatitis B virus.

**The specific at risk categories to be immunised are to be determined on the basis of the official recommendations.**

It can be expected that hepatitis D will also be prevented by immunisation with HBVAXPRO as hepatitis D (caused by the delta agent) does not occur in the absence of hepatitis B infection.

### 4.2 Posology and method of administration

#### Posology

Individuals 16 years of age or more: 1 dose (1 mL) at each injection.

#### Primary vaccination:

A course of vaccination should include at least three injections.

Two primary immunisation schedules can be recommended:

**0, 1, 6 months:** two injections with an interval of one month; a third injection 6 months after the first administration.

**0, 1, 2, 12 months:** three injections with an interval of one month; a fourth dose should be administered at 12 months.

It is recommended that the vaccine be administered in the schedules indicated. Those receiving the compressed regimen (0, 1, 2 months dosing schedule) must receive the 12 month booster to induce higher antibody titres.

#### Booster:

#### Immunocompetent vaccinees

The need for a booster dose in healthy individuals who have received a full primary vaccination course has not been established. However, some local vaccination schedules currently include a recommendation for a booster dose and these should be respected.

#### Immunocompromised vaccinees (e.g. dialysis patients, transplant patients, AIDS Patients)

In vaccinees with an impaired immune system, administration of additional doses of vaccine should be considered if the antibody level against hepatitis B virus surface antigen (anti-HBsAg) is less than 10 IU/l.

#### Revaccination of nonresponders

When persons who do not respond to the primary vaccine series are revaccinated, 15-25 % produce an adequate antibody response after one additional dose and 30-50 % after three additional doses. However, because data are insufficient concerning the safety of hepatitis B vaccine when additional doses in excess of the recommended series are administered, revaccination following completion of the primary series is not routinely recommended. Revaccination should be considered for high-risk individuals, after weighing the benefits of vaccination against the potential risk of experiencing increased local or systemic adverse reactions.

#### Special dosage recommendations for known or presumed exposure to hepatitis B virus (e.g. needlestick with contaminated needle):

- Hepatitis B immunoglobulin should be given as soon as possible after exposure (within 24 hours).
- The first dose of the vaccine should be given within 7 days of exposure and can be administered simultaneously with hepatitis B immunoglobulin but at a separate injection site.
- Serologic testing is also recommended, with the administration of subsequent doses of vaccine, if necessary, (i.e. according to the serologic status of the patient) for short and long term protection.
- In the case of unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated individuals, additional doses should be given as in the recommended immunisation schedules. The accelerated schedule including the 12 month booster dose can be proposed.

Individuals less than 16 years of age:

HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms is not indicated in this subset of paediatric population.

The appropriate strength for administration to individuals from birth through 15 years of age is HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms.

### Method of administration

This vaccine should be administered intramuscularly.

The deltoid muscle is the preferred site for injection in adults and adolescents.

Do not inject intravascularly.

Exceptionally, the vaccine may be administered subcutaneously in patients with thrombocytopaenia or bleeding disorders.

Precautions to be taken before handling or administering the product: see section 6.6.

### **4.3 Contraindications**

- History of hypersensitivity to the active substance, or to any of the excipients, or trace residuals (e.g. formaldehyde and potassium thiocyanate), see sections 6.1 and 6.2.
- Vaccination should be postponed in individuals with a severe febrile illness or acute infection.

### **4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use**

#### Traceability

In order to improve the traceability of biological medicinal products, the name and the batch number of the administered product should be clearly recorded.

As with all injectable vaccines, appropriate medical treatment should always be readily available in case of rare anaphylactic reactions following the administration of the vaccine (see section 4.8).

This vaccine may contain traces of formaldehyde and potassium thiocyanate which are used during the manufacturing process. Therefore, hypersensitivity reactions may occur (see sections 2 and 4.8).

Use caution when vaccinating latex-sensitive individuals since the syringe plunger stopper and tip cap contain dry natural latex rubber that may cause allergic reactions.

For clinical or laboratory monitoring regarding immunocompromised individuals or individuals with known or presumed exposure to hepatitis B virus, see section 4.2.

A number of factors have been observed to reduce the immune response to hepatitis B vaccines. These factors include older age, male gender, obesity, smoking, route of administration and some chronic underlying diseases. Consideration should be given to serological testing of those subjects who may be at risk of not achieving seroprotection following a complete course of HBVAXPRO. Additional doses may need to be considered for persons who do not respond or have a sub-optimal response to a course of vaccinations.

Because of the long incubation period of hepatitis B, it is possible for unrecognised hepatitis B infection to be present at the time of vaccination. The vaccine may not prevent hepatitis B infection in such cases.

The vaccine will not prevent infection caused by other agents such as hepatitis A, hepatitis C and hepatitis E and other pathogens known to infect the liver.

Caution should be exercised when prescribing to pregnant or breast-feeding women (see section 4.6).

Excipient(s) with known effect:

This medicinal product contains less than 1mmol sodium (23 mg) per dose, and is considered to be essentially sodium free.

#### **4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction**

This vaccine can be administered:

- with hepatitis B immunoglobulin, at a separate injection site.
- to complete a primary immunisation course or as a booster dose in subjects who have previously received another hepatitis B vaccine.
- concomitantly with other vaccines, using separate sites and syringes.

#### **4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation**

##### Fertility:

HBVAXPRO has not been evaluated in fertility studies.

##### Pregnancy:

There is no clinical data on the use of HBVAXPRO on pregnant women.

The vaccine should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the foetus.

##### Breast-feeding:

There is no clinical data on the use of HBVAXPRO on breast-feeding women.

#### **4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines**

No studies on the effects on the ability to drive and use machines have been performed. However, HBVAXPRO is expected to have no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

#### **4.8 Undesirable effects**

##### ***a. Summary of the safety profile***

The most common side effects seen are injection-site reactions: transient soreness, erythema, induration.

##### ***b. Tabulated summary of adverse reactions***

The following undesirable effects have been reported following the widespread use of the vaccine.

As with other hepatitis B vaccines, in many instances, the causal relationship to the vaccine has not been established.

<b>Adverse reactions</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
<i>General disorders and administration site conditions</i>	
Local reactions (injection site): Transient soreness, Erythema, Induration	Common (≥1/100 to, <1/10)
Fatigue, Fever, Malaise, Influenza-like symptoms	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Blood and the lymphatic system disorders</i>	
Thrombocytopaenia, Lymphadenopathy	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Immune system disorders</i>	
Serum sickness, Anaphylaxis, Polyarteritis nodosa	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Nervous system disorders</i>	
Paresthesia, Paralysis (including Bell's palsy, facial paralysis), Peripheral neuropathies (polyradiculoneuritis, Guillain Barre Syndrome), Neuritis (including optical neuritis), Myelitis (including transverse Myelitis), Encephalitis, Demyelinating disease of the central nervous system, Exacerbation of multiple sclerosis, Multiple sclerosis, Seizure, Headache, Dizziness, Syncope	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Eye disorders</i>	
Uveitis	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Vascular disorders</i>	
Hypotension, Vasculitis	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders</i>	
Bronchospasm-like symptoms	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Gastrointestinal disorders</i>	
Vomiting, Nausea, Diarrhoea, Abdominal pain	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders</i>	
Rash, Alopecia, Pruritus, Urticaria, Erythema multiforme, Angioedema, Eczema	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Musculoskeletal, connective tissue and bone disorders</i>	
Arthralgia, Arthritis, Myalgia, Pain in extremity	Very rare (<1/10,000)
<i>Investigations</i>	
Elevation of liver enzymes	Very rare (<1/10,000)

#### Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via the national reporting system listed in [Appendix V](#).

## **4.9 Overdose**

There have been reports of administration of higher than recommended doses of HBVAXPRO. In general, the adverse event profile reported with overdose was comparable to that observed with the recommended dose of HBVAXPRO.

## **5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES**

### **5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties**

Pharmacotherapeutic group: anti-infectious, ATC code: J07BC01

The vaccine induces specific humoral antibodies against hepatitis B virus surface antigen (anti-HBsAg). Development of an antibody titre against hepatitis B virus surface antigen (anti-HBsAg) equal to or greater than 10 IU/l measured 1 to 2 months after the last injection correlates with protection to hepatitis B virus infection.

In clinical trials, 96 % of 1,497 healthy infants, children, adolescents and adults given a 3 dose course of a previous formulation of Merck's recombinant hepatitis B vaccine developed a protective level of antibodies against hepatitis B virus surface antigen ( $\geq 10$  IU/l). In two trials conducted in older adolescents and adults, 95.6-97.5 % of vaccinees developed a protective level of antibodies, with geometric mean titres in these trials ranging from 535 – 793 IU/l.

Although the duration of the protective effect of a previous formulation of Merck's recombinant hepatitis B vaccine in healthy vaccinees is unknown, follow-up over 5-9 years of approximately 3,000 high-risk subjects given a similar plasma-derived vaccine has revealed no cases of clinically apparent hepatitis B infection.

In addition, persistence of vaccine-induced immunologic memory for hepatitis B virus surface antigen (HBsAg) has been demonstrated through an anamnestic antibody response to a booster dose of a previous formulation of Merck's recombinant hepatitis B vaccine in healthy adults. The duration of the protective effect in healthy vaccinees is unknown. The need for a booster dose of HBVAXPRO is not yet defined beyond the 12 month booster dose required for the 0, 1, 2 compressed schedule.

#### *Reduced risk of Hepatocellular Carcinoma*

Hepatocellular carcinoma is a serious complication of hepatitis B virus infection. Studies have demonstrated the link between chronic hepatitis B infection and hepatocellular carcinoma and 80 % of hepatocellular carcinomas are caused by hepatitis B virus infection. Hepatitis B vaccine has been recognised as the first anti-cancer vaccine because it can prevent primary liver cancer.

### **5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties**

Not applicable.

### **5.3 Preclinical safety data**

Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted.

## **6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS**

### **6.1 List of excipients**

Sodium chloride  
Borax  
Water for injections

### **6.2 Incompatibilities**

In the absence of compatibility studies, this medicinal product must not be mixed with other medicinal products.

### **6.3 Shelf life**

3 years.

### **6.4 Special precautions for storage**

Store in a refrigerator (2 °C – 8 °C).

Do not freeze. Store in the original package in order to protect from light.

HBVAXPRO should be administered as soon as possible after being removed from refrigeration. HBVAXPRO can be administered provided total (cumulative multiple excursion) time out of refrigeration (at temperatures between 8°C and 25°C) does not exceed 72 hours. Cumulative multiple excursions between 0°C and 2°C are also permitted as long as the total time between 0°C and 2°C does not exceed 72 hours. These are not, however, recommendations for storage.

### **6.5 Nature and contents of container**

1 mL of suspension in pre-filled syringe (glass) without needle with a plunger stopper (gray chlorobutyl or bromobutyl). Pack size of 1, 10

1 mL of suspension in pre-filled syringe (glass) with 1 separate needle with a plunger stopper (gray chlorobutyl or bromobutyl). Pack size of 1, 10

1 mL of suspension in pre-filled syringe (glass) with 2 separate needles with a plunger stopper (gray chlorobutyl or bromobutyl). Pack size of 1, 10, 20

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

### **6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling**

The vaccine should be inspected visually in order to detect any appearance of precipitate or discolouring of the content prior to administration. If these conditions exist, the product should not be administered.

Before use, the syringe should be well shaken.

Hold the syringe barrel and attach the needle by twisting in clockwise direction, until the needle fits securely on the syringe.

Any unused medicinal product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

## **7. MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

Merck Sharp & Dohme B.V.  
Waarderweg 39  
2031 BN Haarlem  
The Netherlands



**8. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)**

EU/1/01/183/011  
EU/1/01/183/013  
EU/1/01/183/026  
EU/1/01/183/027  
EU/1/01/183/028  
EU/1/01/183/029  
EU/1/01/183/032

**9. DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION**

Date of first authorisation: 27/04/2001  
Date of last renewal: 17/03/2011

**10. DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT**

Detailed information on this product is available on the website of the European Medicines Agency  
<http://www.ema.europa.eu>.

## 1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

HBVAXPRO 40 micrograms, suspension for injection  
Hepatitis B vaccine (recombinant DNA)

## 2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

One dose (1 mL) contains:

Hepatitis B virus surface antigen, recombinant (HBsAg) \* ..... 40 micrograms  
Adsorbed on amorphous aluminium hydroxyphosphate sulfate (0.50 milligram Al<sup>+</sup>)

\* produced in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (strain 2150-2-3) yeast by recombinant DNA technology.

This vaccine may contain traces of formaldehyde and potassium thiocyanate which are used during the manufacturing process. See sections 4.3, 4.4 and 4.8.

Excipient(s) with known effect:

Sodium less than 1mmol (23 mg) per dose.

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

## 3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Suspension for injection  
Slightly opaque white suspension.

## 4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

### 4.1 Therapeutic indications

HBVAXPRO is indicated for the active immunisation against hepatitis B virus infection caused by all known subtypes in predialysis and dialysis adult patients.

It can be expected that hepatitis D will also be prevented by immunisation with HBVAXPRO as hepatitis D (caused by the delta agent) does not occur in the absence of hepatitis B infection.

### 4.2 Posology and method of administration

#### Posology

Predialysis and dialysis adult patients: 1 dose (1 mL) at each injection.

#### Primary vaccination:

A course of vaccination should include three injections:

Schedule 0, 1, 6 months: two injections with an interval of one month; a third injection 6 months after the first administration.

### Booster:

A booster dose must be considered in these vaccinees if the antibody level against hepatitis B virus surface antigen (anti-HBsAg) after primary series is less than 10 IU/l.

In accordance with standard medical practice for hepatitis B vaccine administration, regular antibody testing should be done in hemodialysis patients. A booster dose should be given when antibody levels decline below 10 IU/l.

### Special dosage recommendations for known or presumed exposure to hepatitis B virus (e.g. needlestick with contaminated needle):

- Hepatitis B immunoglobulin should be given as soon as possible after exposure (within 24 hours).
- The first dose of the vaccine should be given within 7 days of exposure and can be administered simultaneously with hepatitis B immunoglobulin but at a separate injection site.
- Serologic testing is also recommended, with the administration of subsequent doses of vaccine, if necessary, (i.e. according to the serologic status of the patient) for short and long term protection.
- In the case of unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated individuals, additional doses should be given as in the recommended immunisation schedule.

### Method of administration

This vaccine should be administered intramuscularly.

The deltoid muscle is the preferred site for injection in adults.

Do not inject intravascularly.

Exceptionally, the vaccine may be administered subcutaneously in patients with thrombocytopaenia or bleeding disorders.

Precautions to be taken before handling or administering the product: see section 6.6.

## **4.3 Contraindications**

- History of hypersensitivity to the active substance, or to any of the excipients, or trace residuals (e.g. formaldehyde and potassium thiocyanate), see sections 6.1 and 6.2.
- Vaccination should be postponed in individuals with a severe febrile illness or acute infection.

## **4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use**

### Traceability

In order to improve the traceability of biological medicinal products, the name and the batch number of the administered product should be clearly recorded.

As with all injectable vaccines, appropriate medical treatment should always be readily available in case of rare anaphylactic reactions following the administration of the vaccine (see section 4.8).

This vaccine may contain traces of formaldehyde and potassium thiocyanate which are used during the manufacturing process. Therefore, hypersensitivity reactions may occur (see sections 2 and 4.8).

Use caution when vaccinating latex-sensitive individuals since the vial stopper contains dry natural latex rubber that may cause allergic reactions.

A number of factors have been observed to reduce the immune response to hepatitis B vaccines. These factors include older age, male gender, obesity, smoking, route of administration and some chronic underlying diseases. Consideration should be given to serological testing of those subjects who may be at risk of not achieving seroprotection following a complete course of HBVAXPRO. Additional doses may need to be considered for persons who do not respond or have a sub-optimal response to a course of vaccinations.

Because of the long incubation period of hepatitis B, it is possible for unrecognised hepatitis B infection to be present at the time of vaccination. The vaccine may not prevent hepatitis B infection in such cases.

The vaccine will not prevent infection caused by other agents such as hepatitis A, hepatitis C and hepatitis E and other pathogens known to infect the liver.

Caution should be exercised when prescribing to pregnant or breast-feeding women (see section 4.6).

Excipient(s) with known effect:

This medicinal product contains less than 1mmol sodium (23 mg) per dose, and is considered to be essentially sodium free.

#### **4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction**

This vaccine can be administered:

- with hepatitis B immunoglobulin, at a separate injection site.
- to complete a primary immunisation course or as a booster dose in subjects who have previously received another hepatitis B vaccine.
- concomitantly with other vaccines, using separate sites and syringes.

#### **4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation**

Fertility:

HBVAXPRO has not been evaluated in fertility studies.

Pregnancy:

There is no clinical data on the use of HBVAXPRO on pregnant women.

The vaccine should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the foetus.

Breast-feeding:

There is no clinical data on the use of HBVAXPRO on breast-feeding women.

#### **4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines**

No studies on the effects on the ability to drive and use machines have been performed. However, HBVAXPRO is expected to have no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

#### **4.8 Undesirable effects**

##### ***a. Summary of the safety profile***

The most common side effects seen are injection-site reactions: transient soreness, erythema, induration.

### ***b. Tabulated summary of adverse reactions***

The following undesirable effects have been reported following the widespread use of the vaccine.

As with other hepatitis B vaccines, in many instances, the causal relationship to the vaccine has not been established.

<b>Adverse reactions</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
<i>General disorders and administration site conditions</i>	
Local reactions (injection site): Transient soreness, Erythema, Induration	Common ( $\geq 1/100$ to, $< 1/10$ )
Fatigue, Fever, Malaise, Influenza-like symptoms	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )
<i>Blood and the lymphatic system disorders</i>	
Thrombocytopaenia, Lymphadenopathy	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )
<i>Immune system disorders</i>	
Serum sickness, Anaphylaxis, Polyarteritis nodosa	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )
<i>Nervous system disorders</i>	
Paresthesia, Paralysis (including Bell's palsy, facial paralysis), Peripheral neuropathies (polyradiculoneuritis, Guillain Barre Syndrome), Neuritis (including optical neuritis), Myelitis (including transverse Myelitis), Encephalitis, Demyelinating disease of the central nervous system, Exacerbation of multiple sclerosis, Multiple sclerosis, Seizure, Headache, Dizziness, Syncope	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )
<i>Eye Disorders</i>	
Uveitis	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )
<i>Vascular disorders</i>	
Hypotension, Vasculitis	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )
<i>Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders</i>	
Bronchospasm-like symptoms	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )
<i>Gastrointestinal disorders</i>	
Vomiting, Nausea, Diarrhoea, Abdominal pain	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )
<i>Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders</i>	
Rash, Alopecia, Pruritus, Urticaria, Erythema multiforme, Angioedema, Eczema	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )
<i>Musculoskeletal, connective tissue and bone disorders</i>	
Arthralgia, Arthritis, Myalgia, Pain in extremity	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )
<i>Investigations</i>	
Elevation of liver enzymes	Very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ )

#### Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via the national reporting system listed in [Appendix V](#).

### **4.9 Overdose**

There have been reports of administration of higher than recommended doses of HBVAXPRO. In general, the adverse event profile reported with overdose was comparable to that observed with the recommended dose of HBVAXPRO.

## **5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES**

### **5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties**

Pharmacotherapeutic group: anti-infectious, ATC code: J07BC01

The vaccine induces specific humoral antibodies against hepatitis B virus surface antigen (anti-HBsAg). Development of an antibody titre against hepatitis B virus surface antigen (anti-HBsAg) equal to or greater than 10 IU/l measured 1 to 2 months after the last injection correlates with protection to hepatitis B virus infection.

In clinical trials, 96 % of 1,497 healthy infants, children, adolescents and adults given a 3 dose course of a previous formulation of Merck's recombinant hepatitis B vaccine developed a protective level of antibodies against hepatitis B virus surface antigen ( $\geq 10$  IU/l).

Although the duration of the protective effect of a previous formulation of Merck's recombinant hepatitis B vaccine in healthy vaccinees is unknown, follow-up over 5-9 years of approximately 3,000 high-risk subjects given a similar plasma-derived vaccine has revealed no cases of clinically apparent hepatitis B infection.

In addition, persistence of vaccine-induced immunologic memory for hepatitis B virus surface antigen (HBsAg) has been demonstrated through an anamnestic antibody response to a booster dose of a previous formulation of Merck's recombinant hepatitis B vaccine in healthy adults.

In accordance with standard medical practice for hepatitis B vaccine administration, regular antibody testing should be done in hemodialysis patients. A booster dose should be given when antibody levels decline below 10 IU/l. In subjects in whom insufficient antibody titres are achieved after boosting, the use of alternative hepatitis B vaccines should be considered.

#### *Reduced risk of Hepatocellular Carcinoma*

Hepatocellular carcinoma is a serious complication of hepatitis B virus infection. Studies have demonstrated the link between chronic hepatitis B infection and hepatocellular carcinoma and 80 % of hepatocellular carcinomas are caused by hepatitis B virus infection. Hepatitis B vaccine has been recognised as the first anti-cancer vaccine because it can prevent primary liver cancer.

### **5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties**

Not applicable.

### **5.3 Preclinical safety data**

Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted.

## **6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS**

### **6.1 List of excipients**

Sodium chloride  
Borax  
Water for injections.

## **6.2 Incompatibilities**

In the absence of compatibility studies, this medicinal product must not be mixed with other medicinal products.

## **6.3 Shelf life**

3 years.

## **6.4 Special precautions for storage**

Store in a refrigerator (2 °C – 8 °C).

Do not freeze. Store in the original package in order to protect from light.

HBVAXPRO should be administered as soon as possible after being removed from refrigeration.

HBVAXPRO can be administered provided total (cumulative multiple excursion) time out of refrigeration (at temperatures between 8°C and 25°C) does not exceed 72 hours. Cumulative multiple excursions between 0°C and 2°C are also permitted as long as the total time between 0°C and 2°C does not exceed 72 hours. These are not, however, recommendations for storage.

## **6.5 Nature and contents of container**

1 mL of suspension in vial (glass) with stopper (gray butyl rubber) and aluminum seals with plastic flip caps. Pack size of 1.

## **6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling**

The vaccine should be inspected visually in order to detect any appearance of precipitate or discolouring of the content prior to administration. If these conditions exist, the product should not be administered.

Before use, the vial should be well shaken.

Once the vial has been penetrated, the withdrawn vaccine should be used promptly, and the vial must be discarded.

Any unused medicinal product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

## **7. MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

Merck Sharp & Dohme B.V.  
Waarderweg 39  
2031 BN Haarlem  
The Netherlands

## **8. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)**

EU/1/01/183/015

## **9. DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION**

Date of first authorisation: 27/04/2001

Date of last renewal: 17/03/2011

#### **10. DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT**

Detailed information on this product is available on the website of the European Medicines Agency  
<http://www.ema.europa.eu>.



## **ANNEX II**

- A. MANUFACTURER OF THE BIOLOGICAL ACTIVE SUBSTANCES AND MANUFACTURER RESPONSIBLE FOR BATCH RELEASE**
- B. CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS REGARDING SUPPLY AND USE**
- C. OTHER CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION**
- D. CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS WITH REGARD TO THE SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

**A. MANUFACTURER OF THE BIOLOGICAL ACTIVE SUBSTANCES AND  
MANUFACTURER RESPONSIBLE FOR BATCH RELEASE**

Name and address of the manufacturer of the biological active substances

Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC  
770, Sumneytown Pike  
West Point, Pennsylvania, 19486  
USA

Name and address of the manufacturer responsible for batch release

Merck Sharp & Dohme B.V.  
Waarderweg 39  
2031 BN Haarlem  
The Netherlands

**B. CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS REGARDING SUPPLY AND USE**

Medicinal product subject to medical prescription.

- **Official batch release**

In accordance with Article 114 of Directive 2001/83/EC, the official batch release will be undertaken by a state laboratory or a laboratory designated for that purpose.

**C. OTHER CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE MARKETING  
AUTHORISATION**

- **Periodic safety update reports (PSURs)**

The requirements for submission of PSURs for this medicinal product are set out in the list of Union reference dates (EURD list) provided for under Article 107c(7) of Directive 2001/83/EC and any subsequent updates published on the European medicines web-portal.

**D. CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS WITH REGARD TO THE SAFE AND EFFECTIVE  
USE OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

- **Risk management plan (RMP)**

The marketing authorisation holder (MAH) shall perform the required pharmacovigilance activities and interventions detailed in the agreed RMP presented in Module 1.8.2 of the marketing authorisation and any agreed subsequent updates of the RMP.

An updated RMP should be submitted:

- At the request of the European Medicines Agency;
- Whenever the risk management system is modified, especially as the result of new information being received that may lead to a significant change to the benefit/risk profile or as the result of an important (pharmacovigilance or risk minimisation) milestone being reached.

**ANNEX III**  
**LABELLING AND PACKAGE LEAFLET**

## **A. LABELLING**

**PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING**

**HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms - single dose vial - Pack of 1, 10**

**1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms suspension for injection  
HBVAXPRO 5 mcg suspension for injection  
Hepatitis B vaccine (rDNA)

**2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)**

1 dose (0.5 mL) contains:  
Hepatitis B virus surface antigen, recombinant (HBsAg) \*.....5 mcg  
Adsorbed on amorphous aluminium hydroxyphosphate sulfate

\* produced in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (strain 2150-2-3) yeast by recombinant DNA technology.

**3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS**

NaCl, borax and water for injections.

**4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS**

Suspension for injection  
1 single dose 0.5 mL vial  
10 single doses 0.5 mL vials

**5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION**

Shake well before use.  
Read the package leaflet before use.  
Intramuscular use

**6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN**

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

**7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY**

This product contains natural rubber latex which may cause allergic reactions.

**8. EXPIRY DATE**

EXP

**9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS**

Store in a refrigerator.

Do not freeze.

Store in the original package in order to protect from light.

**10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE****11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

Merck Sharp & Dohme B.V.  
Waarderweg 39  
2031 BN Haarlem  
The Netherlands

**12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)**

EU/1/01/183/001 – pack of 1  
EU/1/01/183/018 – pack of 10

**13. MANUFACTURER'S BATCH NUMBER**

Lot

**14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY****15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE****16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE**

Justification for not including Braille accepted.

**17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE**

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

<b>18.      UNIQUE IDENTIFIER - HUMAN READABLE DATA</b>
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## PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING

**HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms - single dose pre-filled syringe without needle - Pack of 1, 10, 20, 50**

**HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms - single dose pre-filled syringe with 1 separate needle - Pack of 1, 10**

**HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms - single dose pre-filled syringe with 2 separate needles - Pack of 1, 10, 20, 50**

### 1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms suspension for injection in pre-filled syringe

HBVAXPRO 5 mcg suspension for injection in pre-filled syringe

Hepatitis B vaccine (rDNA)

### 2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)

1 dose (0.5 mL) contains:

Hepatitis B virus surface antigen, recombinant (HBsAg) \*.....5 mcg

Adsorbed on amorphous aluminium hydroxyphosphate sulfate

\* produced in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (strain 2150-2-3) yeast by recombinant DNA technology.

### 3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS

NaCl, borax and water for injections.

### 4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS

Suspension for injection

1 single dose 0.5 mL pre-filled syringe without needle

10 single dose 0.5 mL pre-filled syringes without needle

20 single dose 0.5 mL pre-filled syringes without needle

50 single dose 0.5 mL pre-filled syringes without needle

1 single dose 0.5 mL pre-filled syringe with 1 separate needle

10 single dose 0.5 mL pre-filled syringes with 1 separate needle (for each syringe)

1 single dose 0.5 mL pre-filled syringe with 2 separate needles

10 single dose 0.5 mL pre-filled syringes with 2 separate needles (for each syringe)

20 single dose 0.5 mL pre-filled syringes with 2 separate needles (for each syringe)

50 single dose 0.5 mL pre-filled syringes with 2 separate needles (for each syringe)

### 5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION

Shake well before use.

Read the package leaflet before use.

Intramuscular use



**6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN**

Keep out of the sight and reach of children

**7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY**

This product contains natural rubber latex which may cause allergic reactions.

**8. EXPIRY DATE**

EXP

**9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS**

Store in a refrigerator.

Do not freeze.

Store in the original package in order to protect from light.

**10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE**

**11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

Merck Sharp & Dohme B.V.  
Waarderweg 39  
2031 BN Haarlem  
The Netherlands

**12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)**

EU/1/01/183/004 – pack of 1  
EU/1/01/183/005 – pack of 10  
EU/1/01/183/020 – pack of 20  
EU/1/01/183/021 – pack of 50  
EU/1/01/183/022 – pack of 1  
EU/1/01/183/023 – pack of 10  
EU/1/01/183/024 – pack of 1  
EU/1/01/183/025 – pack of 10  
EU/1/01/183/030 – pack of 20  
EU/1/01/183/031 – pack of 50

<b>13. MANUFACTURER'S BATCH NUMBER</b>
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Lot

<b>14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY</b>
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<b>15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE</b>
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<b>16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE</b>
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Justification for not including Braille accepted.

<b>17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE</b>
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2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

<b>18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER - HUMAN READABLE DATA</b>
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PC  
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**MINIMUM PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON SMALL IMMEDIATE PACKAGING UNITS****HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms****1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION**

HBVAXPRO 5 mcg suspension for injection  
Hepatitis B vaccine (rDNA)

IM use

**2. METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION**

Shake well before use

**3. EXPIRY DATE**

EXP

**4. BATCH NUMBER**

Lot

**5. CONTENTS BY WEIGHT, BY VOLUME OR BY UNIT**

0.5 mL

**6. OTHER**

MSD

**PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING**

**HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms - single dose vial - Pack of 1, 10**

**1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms suspension for injection

HBVAXPRO 10 mcg suspension for injection

Hepatitis B vaccine (rDNA)

**2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)**

1 dose (1 mL) contains:

Hepatitis B virus surface antigen, recombinant (HBsAg) \*.....10 mcg

Adsorbed on amorphous aluminium hydroxyphosphate sulfate

\* produced in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (strain 2150-2-3) yeast by recombinant DNA technology.

**3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS**

NaCl, borax and water for injections.

**4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS**

Suspension for injection

1 single dose 1 mL vial

10 single dose 1 mL vials

**5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION**

Shake well before use.

Read the package leaflet before use.

Intramuscular use

**6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN**

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

**7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY**

This product contains natural rubber latex which may cause allergic reactions.

**8. EXPIRY DATE**

EXP

**9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS**

Store in a refrigerator.

Do not freeze.

Store in the original package in order to protect from light.

**10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE****11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

Merck Sharp & Dohme B.V.  
Waarderweg 39  
2031 BN Haarlem  
The Netherlands

**12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)**

EU/1/01/183/007 – pack of 1

EU/1/01/183/008 – pack of 10

**13. MANUFACTURER'S BATCH NUMBER**

Lot

**14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY****15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE****16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE**

Justification for not including Braille accepted.

**17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE**

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

<b>18.      UNIQUE IDENTIFIER - HUMAN READABLE DATA</b>
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NN

## **PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING**

**HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms - single dose pre-filled syringe without needle - Pack of 1, 10**

**HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms - single dose pre-filled syringe with 1 separate needle - Pack of 1, 10**

**HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms - single dose pre-filled syringe with 2 separate needles - Pack of 1, 10, 20**

### **1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms suspension for injection in pre-filled syringe

HBVAXPRO 10 mcg suspension for injection in pre-filled syringe

Hepatitis B vaccine (rDNA)

### **2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)**

1 dose (1 mL) contains:

Hepatitis B virus surface antigen, recombinant (HBsAg) \*.....10 mcg

Adsorbed on amorphous aluminium hydroxyphosphate sulfate

\* produced in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (strain 2150-2-3) yeast by recombinant DNA technology.

### **3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS**

NaCl, borax and water for injections.

### **4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS**

Suspension for injection

1 single dose 1 mL pre-filled syringe without needle

10 single dose 1 mL pre-filled syringes without needle

1 single dose 1 mL pre-filled syringe with 1 separate needle

10 single dose 1 mL pre-filled syringes with 1 separate needle (for each syringe)

1 single dose 1 mL pre-filled syringe with 2 separate needles

10 single dose 1 mL pre-filled syringes with 2 separate needles (for each syringe)

20 single dose 1 mL pre-filled syringes with 2 separate needles (for each syringe)

### **5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION**

Shake well before use.

Read the package leaflet before use.

Intramuscular use

**6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN**

Keep out of the sight and reach of children

**7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY**

This product contains natural rubber latex which may cause allergic reactions.

**8. EXPIRY DATE**

EXP

**9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS**

Store in a refrigerator.

Do not freeze.

Store in the original package in order to protect from light.

**10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE**

**11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

Merck Sharp & Dohme B.V.  
Waarderweg 39  
2031 BN Haarlem  
The Netherlands

**12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)**

EU/1/01/183/011 – pack of 1  
EU/1/01/183/013 – pack of 10  
EU/1/01/183/026 – pack of 1  
EU/1/01/183/027 – pack of 10  
EU/1/01/183/028 – pack of 1  
EU/1/01/183/029 – pack of 10  
EU/1/01/183/032 – pack of 20

**13. MANUFACTURER'S BATCH NUMBER**

Lot



<b>14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY</b>
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<b>15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE</b>
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<b>16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE</b>
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Justification for not including Braille accepted.

<b>17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE</b>
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2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

<b>18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER - HUMAN READABLE DATA</b>
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PC  
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NN

**MINIMUM PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON SMALL IMMEDIATE PACKAGING UNITS****HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms****1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION**

HBVAXPRO 10 mcg suspension for injection  
Hepatitis B vaccine (rDNA)

IM use

**2. METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION**

Shake well before use

**3. EXPIRY DATE**

EXP

**4. BATCH NUMBER**

Lot

**5. CONTENTS BY WEIGHT, BY VOLUME OR BY UNIT**

1 mL

**6. OTHER**

MSD

**PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING**

**HBVAXPRO 40 micrograms - single dose vial - Pack of 1**

**1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

HBVAXPRO 40 micrograms suspension for injection  
HBVAXPRO 40 mcg suspension for injection  
Hepatitis B vaccine (rDNA)

**2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)**

1 dose (1 mL) contains:  
Hepatitis B virus surface antigen, recombinant (HBsAg) \*.....40 mcg  
Adsorbed on amorphous aluminium hydroxyphosphate sulfate

\* produced in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (strain 2150-2-3) yeast by recombinant DNA technology.

**3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS**

NaCl, borax and water for injections.

**4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS**

Suspension for injection  
1 single dose 1 mL vial

**5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION**

Shake well before use.  
Read the package leaflet before use.  
Intramuscular use

**6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN**

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

**7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY**

This product contains natural rubber latex which may cause allergic reactions.

**8. EXPIRY DATE**

EXP

**9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS**

Store in a refrigerator.

Do not freeze.

Store in the original package in order to protect from light.

**10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE****11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

Merck Sharp & Dohme B.V.  
Waarderweg 39  
2031 BN Haarlem  
The Netherlands

**12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)**

EU/1/01/183/015

**13. MANUFACTURER'S BATCH NUMBER**

Lot

**14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY****15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE****16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE**

Justification for not including Braille accepted.

**17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE**

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

<b>18.     UNIQUE IDENTIFIER - HUMAN READABLE DATA</b>
--

PC

SN

NN

**MINIMUM PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON SMALL IMMEDIATE PACKAGING UNITS****HBVAXPRO 40 micrograms****1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION**

HBVAXPRO 40 mcg suspension for injection  
Hepatitis B vaccine (rDNA)

IM use

**2. METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION**

Shake well before use

**3. EXPIRY DATE**

EXP

**4. BATCH NUMBER**

Lot

**5. CONTENTS BY WEIGHT, BY VOLUME OR BY UNIT**

1 mL

**6. OTHER**

MSD

## **B. PACKAGE LEAFLET**

## **Package leaflet: Information for the user**

### **HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms, suspension for injection** Hepatitis B vaccine (recombinant DNA)

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you or your child is vaccinated because it contains important information.**

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.
- If you or your child get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

#### **What is in this leaflet:**

1. What HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you or your child receive HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms
3. How HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms is given
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms
6. Contents of the pack and other information

#### **1. What HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms is and what it is used for**

This vaccine is indicated for active immunisation against hepatitis B virus infection caused by all known subtypes in individuals from birth through 15 years of age considered at risk of exposure to hepatitis B virus.

It can be expected that hepatitis D will also be prevented by immunisation with HBVAXPRO as hepatitis D does not occur in the absence of hepatitis B infection.

The vaccine will not prevent infection caused by other agents such as hepatitis A, hepatitis C and hepatitis E and other pathogens known to infect the liver.

#### **2. What you need to know before you or your child receive HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms**

##### **Do not use HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms**

- if you or your child is allergic to hepatitis B surface antigen or to any of the other ingredients of HBVAXPRO (see section 6)
- if you or your child has a severe illness with fever

##### **Warnings and precautions**

The container of this vaccine contains latex rubber. Latex rubber may cause severe allergic reactions.

Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before you or your child receives HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms.

##### **Other vaccines and HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms**

HBVAXPRO can be administered at the same time as with hepatitis B immunoglobulin, at a separate injection site.

HBVAXPRO can be used to complete a primary immunisation course or as a booster dose in subjects who have previously received another hepatitis B vaccine.



HBVAXPRO may be administered at the same time as with some other vaccines, using separate sites and syringes.

**Tell your doctor, pharmacist or nurse if you or your child is taking, or has recently taken, any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription.**

### **Pregnancy and breast-feeding**

Caution should be exercised when prescribing the vaccine to pregnant or breast-feeding women. Ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse for advice before taking any medicine.

### **Driving and using machines**

HBVAXPRO is expected to have no, or negligible, influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

**HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms contains sodium:** This medicinal product contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per dose, that is to say essentially 'sodium- free'.

## **3. How HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms is given**

### **Dosage**

The recommended dose for each injection (0.5 mL) is 5 micrograms for individuals from birth through 15 years of age.

A course of vaccination should include at least three injections.

Two immunisation schedules can be recommended:

- two injections with an interval of one month followed by a third injection 6 months after the first administration (0, 1, 6 months).
- if immunity is needed quickly: three injections with an interval of one month and a fourth dose 1 year later (0, 1, 2, 12 months).

In case of a recent exposure to the hepatitis B virus, a first dose of HBVAXPRO together with the appropriate dose of immunoglobulin can be given.

Some local vaccination schedules currently include recommendations for a booster dose. Your doctor, pharmacist or nurse will inform you if a booster dose should be given.

### **Method of administration**

The vial should be well shaken until a slightly opaque white suspension is obtained.

Once the vial has been penetrated, the withdrawn vaccine should be used promptly, and the vial must be discarded.

The doctor or nurse will give the vaccine as an injection into muscle. The upper side of the thigh is the preferred site for injection in neonates and infants. The upper arm muscle is the preferred site for injection in children and adolescents.

This vaccine should never be given into a blood vessel.

Exceptionally, the vaccine may be administered subcutaneously in patients with thrombocytopaenia (diminution of blood platelets) or to persons at risk of haemorrhage.

### **If you or your child forget one dose of HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms**

If you or your child miss a scheduled injection, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. Your doctor or nurse will decide when to give the missed dose.

If you or your child have any further questions on the use of this product, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

### **4. Possible side effects**

Like all medicines, this vaccine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

As with other hepatitis B vaccines, in many instances, the causal relationship of side effects to the vaccine has not been established.

The most common side effects seen are injection-site reactions: soreness, redness and hardening.

Other side effects are reported very rarely:

- Low platelet count, Lymph node disease
- Allergic reactions
- Nervous system disorders such as pins and needles, Facial paralysis, Nerve inflammations including Guillain-Barre Syndrome, Inflammation of the nerve of the eye that leads to impaired vision, Brain inflammation, Exacerbation of multiple sclerosis, Multiple sclerosis, Convulsions, Headache, Dizziness and Fainting
- Low blood pressure, Blood vessel inflammation
- Asthma-like symptoms
- Vomiting, Nausea, Diarrhoea, Abdominal pain
- Skin reactions such as eczema, Rash, Itching, Hives and Skin blistering, Hair loss
- Joint pain, Arthritis, Muscle pain, Pain in extremity
- Fatigue, Fever, Vague illness, Flu-like symptoms
- Elevation of liver enzymes
- Inflammation of the eye which causes pain and redness

In babies born very prematurely (at or before 28 weeks of gestation) longer gaps than normal between breaths may occur for 2-3 days after vaccination.

### **Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via [the national reporting system listed in Appendix V](#). By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

## **5. How to store HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms**

Keep this vaccine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this vaccine after the expiry date which is stated on the label.

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C).

Do not freeze.

Store in the original package in order to protect from light.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

## **6. Contents of the pack and other information**

### **What HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms contains**

The active substance is :

Hepatitis B virus surface antigen, recombinant (HBsAg) \* ..... 5 micrograms

Adsorbed on amorphous aluminium hydroxyphosphate sulfate (0.25 milligram Al<sup>+</sup>)<sup>#</sup>

\* produced in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (strain 2150-2-3) yeast by recombinant DNA technology.

<sup>#</sup> Amorphous aluminium hydroxyphosphate sulfate is included in this vaccine as an adsorbant. Adsorbants are substances included in certain vaccines to accelerate, improve and/or prolong the protective effects of the vaccine.

The other ingredients are sodium chloride (NaCl), borax and water for injections.

### **What HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms looks like and contents of the pack**

HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms is a suspension for injection in a vial.

Pack sizes of 1 and 10 vials without syringe/needle.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

### **Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer**

Merck Sharp & Dohme B.V., Waarderweg 39, 2031 BN Haarlem, The Netherlands

For any information about this vaccine, please contact the local representative of the Marketing Authorisation Holder.

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**This leaflet was last revised in {MM/YYYY}.**

Detailed information on this medicine is available on the European Medicines Agency website:  
<https://www.ema.europa.eu>.

**The following information is intended for medical or health care professionals only:**

**Instructions**

The vaccine should be inspected visually prior to administration for any foreign particulate matter and/or abnormal physical appearance. The vial should be well shaken until a slightly opaque white suspension is obtained.

## **Package leaflet: Information for the user**

### **HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms, suspension for injection in pre-filled syringe** Hepatitis B vaccine (recombinant DNA)

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you or your child is vaccinated because it contains important information.**

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.
- If you or your child get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

#### **What is in this leaflet:**

1. What HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you or your child receive HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms
3. How HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms is given
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms
6. Content of the pack and other information

#### **1. What HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms is and what it is used for**

This vaccine is indicated for active immunisation against hepatitis B virus infection caused by all known subtypes in individuals from birth through 15 years of age considered at risk of exposure to hepatitis B virus.

It can be expected that hepatitis D will also be prevented by immunisation with HBVAXPRO as hepatitis D does not occur in the absence of hepatitis B infection.

The vaccine will not prevent infection caused by other agents such as hepatitis A, hepatitis C and hepatitis E and other pathogens known to infect the liver.

#### **2. What you need to know before you or your child receive HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms**

##### **Do not use HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms**

- if you or your child is allergic to hepatitis B surface antigen or to any of the other ingredients of HBVAXPRO (see section 6)
- if you or your child has a severe illness with fever

##### **Warnings and precautions**

The container of this vaccine contains latex rubber. Latex rubber may cause severe allergic reactions.

Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before you or your child receive HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms.

##### **Other vaccines and HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms**

HBVAXPRO can be administered at the same time as with hepatitis B immunoglobulin, at a separate injection site.

HBVAXPRO can be used to complete a primary immunisation course or as a booster dose in subjects who have previously received another hepatitis B vaccine.

HBVAXPRO may be administered at the same time as with some other vaccines, using separate sites and syringes.

**Tell your doctor, pharmacist or nurse if you or your child is taking or has recently taken any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription.**

### **Pregnancy and breast-feeding**

Caution should be exercised when prescribing the vaccine to pregnant or breast-feeding women. Ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse for advice before taking any medicine.

### **Driving and using machines**

HBVAXPRO is expected to have no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

**HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms contains sodium:** This medicinal product contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per dose, that is to say essentially 'sodium-free'.

## **3. How HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms is given**

### **Dosage**

The recommended dose for each injection (0.5 mL) is 5 micrograms for individuals from birth through 15 years of age.

A course of vaccination should include at least three injections.

Two immunisation schedules can be recommended:

- two injections with an interval of one month followed by a third injection 6 months after the first administration (0, 1, 6 months).
- if immunity is needed quickly: three injections with an interval of one month and a fourth dose 1 year later (0, 1, 2, 12 months).

In case of a recent exposure to the hepatitis B virus, a first dose of HBVAXPRO together with the appropriate dose of immunoglobulin can be given.

Some local vaccination schedules currently include recommendations for a booster dose. Your doctor, pharmacist or nurse will inform you if a booster dose should be given.

### **Method of administration**

The doctor or nurse will give the vaccine as an injection into muscle. The upper side of the thigh is the preferred site for injection in neonates and infants. The upper arm muscle is the preferred site for injection in children and adolescents.

This vaccine should never be given into a blood vessel.

Exceptionally, the vaccine may be administered subcutaneously in patients with thrombocytopaenia (diminution of blood platelets) or to persons at risk of haemorrhage.

### **If you or your child forget one dose of HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms**

If you or your child miss a scheduled injection, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. Your doctor or nurse will decide when to give the missed dose.

If you or your child have any further questions on the use of this product, ask your doctor pharmacist or nurse.

## **4. Possible side effects**

Like all medicines, this vaccine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

As with other hepatitis B vaccines, in many instances, the causal relationship of side effects to the vaccine has not been established.

The most common side effects seen are injection-site reactions: soreness, redness and hardening.

Other side effects are reported very rarely:

- Low platelet count, Lymph node disease
- Allergic reactions
- Nervous system disorders such as pins and needles, Facial paralysis, Nerve inflammations including Guillain-Barre Syndrome, Inflammation of the nerve of the eye that leads to impaired vision, Brain inflammation, Exacerbation of multiple sclerosis, Multiple sclerosis, Convulsions, Headache, Dizziness and Fainting
- Low blood pressure, Blood vessel inflammation
- Asthma-like symptoms
- Vomiting, Nausea, Diarrhoea, Abdominal pain
- Skin reactions such as eczema, Rash, Itching, Hives and Skin blistering, Hair loss
- Joint pain, Arthritis, Muscle pain, Pain in extremity
- Fatigue, Fever, Vague illness, Flu-like symptoms
- Elevation of liver enzymes
- Inflammation of the eye which causes pain and redness

In babies born very prematurely (at or before 28 weeks of gestation) longer gaps than normal between breaths may occur for 2-3 days after vaccination.

## **Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via [the national reporting system listed in Appendix V](#). By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

## **5. How to store HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms**

Keep this vaccine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this vaccine after the expiry date which is stated on the label.

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C).



Do not freeze.

Store in the original package in order to protect from light.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

## **6. Contents of the pack and other information**

### **What HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms contains**

The active substance is:

Hepatitis B virus surface antigen, recombinant (HBsAg) \* ..... 5 micrograms

Adsorbed on amorphous aluminium hydroxyphosphate sulfate (0.25 milligram Al<sup>+</sup>)<sup>#</sup>

\* produced in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (strain 2150-2-3) yeast by recombinant DNA technology.

<sup>#</sup> Amorphous aluminium hydroxyphosphate sulfate is included in this vaccine as an adsorbant. Adsorbants are substances included in certain vaccines to accelerate, improve and/or prolong the protective effects of the vaccine.

The other ingredients are sodium chloride (NaCl), borax and water for injections.

### **What HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms looks like and contents of the pack**

HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms is a suspension for injection in a syringe.

Pack sizes of 1, 10, 20 and 50 pre-filled syringes without needle or with 2 separate needles,

Pack sizes of 1 and 10 pre-filled syringes with 1 separate needle.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

### **Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer**

Merck Sharp & Dohme B.V., Waarderweg 39, 2031 BN Haarlem, The Netherlands

For any information about this vaccine, please contact the local representative of the Marketing Authorisation Holder.

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**This leaflet was last revised in {MM/YYYY}.**

Detailed information on this medicine is available on the European Medicines Agency website:  
<https://www.ema.europa.eu>.

**The following information is intended for medical or health care professionals only:**

**Instructions**

The vaccine should be inspected visually prior to administration for any foreign particulate matter and/or abnormal physical appearance. The syringe should be well shaken until a slightly opaque white suspension is obtained.

The needle is attached by twisting in clockwise direction, until the needle fits securely on the syringe.

## **Package leaflet: Information for the user**

### **HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms, suspension for injection** Hepatitis B vaccine (recombinant DNA)

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you are vaccinated because it contains important information for you.**

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

#### **What is in this leaflet:**

1. What HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms is and what it is used for
2. What do you need to know before you receive HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms
3. How HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms is given
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms
6. Contents of the pack and other information

#### **1. What HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms is and what it is used for**

This vaccine is indicated for active immunisation against hepatitis B virus infection caused by all known subtypes in individuals 16 years of age or more considered at risk of exposure to hepatitis B virus.

It can be expected that hepatitis D will also be prevented by immunisation with HBVAXPRO as hepatitis D does not occur in the absence of hepatitis B infection.

The vaccine will not prevent infection caused by other agents such as hepatitis A, hepatitis C and hepatitis E and other pathogens known to infect the liver.

#### **2. What you need to know before you receive HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms**

##### **Do not use HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms**

- if you are allergic to hepatitis B surface antigen or to any of the other ingredients of HBVAXPRO (see section 6)
- if you have a severe illness with fever

##### **Warnings and precautions**

The container of this vaccine contains latex rubber. Latex rubber may cause severe allergic reactions.

Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before you receive HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms.

##### **Other vaccines and HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms**

HBVAXPRO can be administered at the same time as with hepatitis B immunoglobulin, at a separate injection site.

HBVAXPRO can be used to complete a primary immunisation course or as a booster dose in subjects who have previously received another hepatitis B vaccine.

HBVAXPRO can be administered at the same time as with other vaccines, using separate sites and syringes.

**Tell your doctor, pharmacist or nurse if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription**

**Pregnancy and breast-feeding**

Caution should be exercised when prescribing the vaccine to pregnant or breast-feeding women. Ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse for advice before taking any medicine.

**Driving and using machines**

HBVAXPRO is expected to have no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

**HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms contains sodium:** This medicinal product contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per dose, that is to say essentially 'sodium- free'.

**3. How HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms is given**

**Dosage**

The recommended dose for each injection (1 mL) is 10 micrograms for individuals 16 years of age or more.

A course of vaccination should include three injections.

Two immunisation schedules can be recommended:

- two injections with an interval of one month followed by a third injection 6 months after the first administration (0, 1, 6 months).
- if immunity is needed quickly: three injections with an interval of one month and a fourth dose 1 year later (0, 1, 2, 12 months).

In case of a recent exposure to the hepatitis B virus, a first dose of HBVAXPRO together with the appropriate dose of immunoglobulin can be given.

Some local vaccination schedules currently include recommendations for a booster dose. Your doctor, pharmacist or nurse will inform you if a booster dose should be given.

For individuals less than 16 years of age, HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms is not recommended. The appropriate strength for administration to individuals from birth through 15 years of age is HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms.

**Method of administration**

The vial should be well shaken until a slightly opaque white suspension is obtained.

The doctor or nurse will give the vaccine as an injection into muscle. The upper arm muscle is the preferred site for injection in adults and adolescents.

This vaccine should never be given into a blood vessel.

Exceptionally, the vaccine may be administered subcutaneously in patients with thrombocytopaenia (diminution of blood platelets) or to persons at risk of haemorrhage.

### **If you forget one dose of HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms**

If you miss a scheduled injection, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. Your doctor or nurse will decide when to give the missed dose.

If you have any further questions on the use of this product, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

## **4. Possible side effects**

Like all medicines, this vaccine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

As with other hepatitis B vaccines, in many instances, the causal relationship of side effects to the vaccine has not been established.

The most common side effects seen are injection-site reactions: soreness, redness and hardening.

Other side effects are reported very rarely:

- Low platelet count, Lymph node disease
- Allergic reactions
- Nervous system disorders such as pins and needles, Facial paralysis, Nerve inflammations including Guillain-Barre Syndrome, Inflammation of the nerve of the eye that leads to impaired vision, Brain inflammation, Exacerbation of multiple sclerosis, Multiple sclerosis, Convulsions, Headache, Dizziness and Fainting
- Low blood pressure, Blood vessel inflammation
- Asthma-like symptoms
- Vomiting, Nausea, Diarrhoea, Abdominal pain
- Skin reactions such as eczema, Rash, Itching, Hives and Skin blistering, Hair loss
- Joint pain, Arthritis, Muscle pain, Pain in extremity
- Fatigue, Fever, Vague illness, Flu-like symptoms
- Elevation of liver enzymes
- Inflammation of the eye which causes pain and redness

## **Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via [the national reporting system listed in Appendix V](#). By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

## **5. How to store HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms**

Keep this vaccine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this vaccine after the expiry date which is stated on the label.

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C).

Do not freeze.

Store in the original package in order to protect from light.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

## **6. Contents of the pack and other information**

### **What HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms contains**

The active substance is:

Hepatitis B virus surface antigen, recombinant (HBsAg) \*..... 10 micrograms

Adsorbed on amorphous aluminium hydroxyphosphate sulfate (0.50 milligram Al<sup>+</sup>)<sup>#</sup>

\* produced in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (strain 2150-2-3) yeast by recombinant DNA technology.

<sup>#</sup> Amorphous aluminium hydroxyphosphate sulfate is included in this vaccine as an adsorbant. Adsorbants are substances included in certain vaccines to accelerate, improve and/or prolong the protective effects of the vaccine.

The other ingredients are sodium chloride (NaCl), borax and water for injections.

### **What HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms looks like and contents of the pack**

HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms is a suspension for injection in a vial.

Pack sizes of 1 and 10 vials.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

### **Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer**

Merck Sharp & Dohme B.V., Waarderweg 39, 2031 BN Haarlem, The Netherlands

For any information about this vaccine, please contact the local representative of the Marketing Authorisation Holder.

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**This leaflet was last revised in {MM/YYYY}**

Detailed information on this medicine is available on the European Medicines Agency website:  
<https://www.ema.europa.eu>.

**The following information is intended for medical or health care professionals only:**

**Instructions**

The vaccine should be inspected visually prior to administration for any foreign particulate matter and/or abnormal physical appearance. The vial should be well shaken until a slightly opaque white suspension is obtained.

## **Package leaflet: Information for the user**

### **HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms, suspension for injection in pre-filled syringe** Hepatitis B vaccine (recombinant DNA)

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you are vaccinated because it contains important information for you.**

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

#### **What is in this leaflet:**

1. What HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms is and what it is used for
2. What do you need to know before you receive HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms
3. How HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms is given
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms
6. Contents of the pack and other information

#### **1. What HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms is and what it is used for**

This vaccine is indicated for active immunisation against hepatitis B virus infection caused by all known subtypes in individuals 16 years of age or more considered at risk of exposure to hepatitis B virus.

It can be expected that hepatitis D will also be prevented by immunisation with HBVAXPRO as hepatitis D does not occur in the absence of hepatitis B infection.

The vaccine will not prevent infection caused by other agents such as hepatitis A, hepatitis C and hepatitis E and other pathogens known to infect the liver.

#### **2. What you need to know before you receive HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms**

##### **Do not use HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms**

- if you are allergic to hepatitis B surface antigen or to any of the other ingredients of HBVAXPRO (see section 6)
- if you have a severe illness with fever

##### **Warnings and precautions**

The container of this vaccine contains latex rubber. Latex rubber may cause severe allergic reactions.

Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before you receive HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms.

##### **Other vaccines and HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms**

HBVAXPRO can be administered at the same time as with hepatitis B immunoglobulin, at a separate injection site.

HBVAXPRO can be used to complete a primary immunisation course or as a booster dose in subjects who have previously received another hepatitis B vaccine.

HBVAXPRO can be administered at the same time as with other vaccines, using separate sites and syringes.

**Tell your doctor, pharmacist or nurse if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription.**

**Pregnancy and breast-feeding**

Caution should be exercised when prescribing the vaccine to pregnant or breast-feeding women. Ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse for advice before taking any medicine.

**Driving and using machines**

HBVAXPRO is expected to have no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

**HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms contains sodium:** This medicinal product contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per dose, that is to say essentially 'sodium- free'.

**3. How HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms is given**

**Dosage**

The recommended dose for each injection (1 mL) is 10 micrograms for individuals 16 years of age or more.

A course of vaccination should include at least three injections.

Two immunisation schedules can be recommended:

- two injections with an interval of one month followed by a third injection 6 months after the first administration (0, 1, 6 months)
- if immunity is needed quickly: three injections with an interval of one month and a fourth dose 1 year later (0, 1, 2, 12 months).

In case of a recent exposure to the hepatitis B virus, a first dose of HBVAXPRO together with the appropriate dose of immunoglobulin can be given.

Some local vaccination schedules currently include recommendations for a booster dose. Your doctor, pharmacist or nurse will inform you if a booster dose should be given.

For individuals less than 16 years of age, HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms is not recommended. The appropriate strength for administration to individuals from birth to 15 years of age is HBVAXPRO 5 micrograms.

**Method of administration**

The doctor or nurse will give the vaccine as an injection into muscle. The upper arm muscle is the preferred site for injection in adults and adolescents.

This vaccine should never be given into a blood vessel.

Exceptionally, the vaccine may be administered subcutaneously in patients with thrombocytopaenia (diminution of blood platelets) or to persons at risk of haemorrhage.

## **If you forget one dose of HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms**

If you miss a scheduled injection, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. Your doctor or nurse will decide when to give the missed dose.

If you have any further questions on the use of this product, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

## **4. Possible side effects**

Like all medicines, this vaccine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

As with other hepatitis B vaccines, in many instances, the causal relationship of side effects to the vaccine has not been established.

The most common side effects seen are injection-site reactions: soreness, redness and hardening.

Other side effects are reported very rarely:

- Low platelet count, Lymph node disease
- Allergic reactions
- Nervous system disorders such as pins and needles, Facial paralysis, Nerve inflammations including Guillain-Barre Syndrome, Inflammation of the nerve of the eye that leads to impaired vision, Brain inflammation, Exacerbation of multiple sclerosis, Multiple sclerosis, Convulsions, Headache, Dizziness and Fainting
- Low blood pressure, Blood vessel inflammation
- Asthma-like symptoms
- Vomiting, Nausea, Diarrhoea, Abdominal pain
- Skin reactions such as eczema, Rash, Itching, Hives and Skin blistering, Hair loss
- Joint pain, Arthritis, Muscle pain, Pain in extremity
- Fatigue, Fever, Vague illness, Flu-like symptoms
- Elevation of liver enzymes
- Inflammation of the eye which causes pain and redness

## **Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the national reporting system listed in [Appendix V](#). By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

## **5. How to store HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms**

Keep this vaccine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this vaccine after the expiry date which is stated on the label.

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C).

Do not freeze.

Store in the original package in order to protect from light.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

## **6. Contents of the pack and other information**

### **What HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms contains**

The active substance is:

Hepatitis B virus surface antigen, recombinant (HBsAg) \*..... 10 micrograms

Adsorbed on amorphous aluminium hydroxyphosphate sulfate (0.50 milligram Al<sup>+</sup>)<sup>#</sup>

\* produced in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (strain 2150-2-3) yeast by recombinant DNA technology.

<sup>#</sup> Amorphous aluminium hydroxyphosphate sulfate is included in this vaccine as an adsorbant. Adsorbants are substances included in certain vaccines to accelerate, improve and/or prolong the protective effects of the vaccine.

The other ingredients are sodium chloride (NaCl), borax and water for injections.

### **What HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms looks like and contents of the pack**

HBVAXPRO 10 micrograms is a suspension for injection in a syringe.

Pack sizes of 1, 10 and 20 pre-filled syringes with 2 separate needles.

Pack sizes of 1 and 10 pre-filled syringes without needle, or with 1 separate needle.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

### **Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer**

Merck Sharp & Dohme B.V., Waarderweg 39, 2031 BN Haarlem, The Netherlands

For any information about this vaccine, please contact the local representative of the Marketing Authorisation Holder.

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**This leaflet was last revised in {MM/YYYY}**

Detailed information on this medicine is available on the European Medicines Agency website:

<https://www.ema.europa.eu>.

**The following information is intended for medical or health care professionals only:**

**Instructions**

The vaccine should be inspected visually prior to administration for any foreign particulate matter and/or abnormal physical appearance. The syringe should be well shaken until a slightly opaque white suspension is obtained.

The needle is attached by twisting in clockwise direction, until the needle fits securely on the syringe.

## **Package leaflet: Information for the user**

### **HBVAXPRO 40 micrograms, suspension for injection** Hepatitis B vaccine (recombinant DNA)

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you are vaccinated because it contains important information for you.**

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

#### **What is in this leaflet:**

1. What HBVAXPRO 40 micrograms is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you receive HBVAXPRO 40 micrograms
3. How HBVAXPRO 40 micrograms is given
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store HBVAXPRO 40 micrograms
6. Contents of the pack and other information

#### **1. What HBVAXPRO 40 micrograms is and what it is used for**

This vaccine is indicated for active immunisation against hepatitis B virus infection caused by all known subtypes in predialysis and dialysis adult patients.

It can be expected that hepatitis D will also be prevented by immunisation with HBVAXPRO as hepatitis D (caused by the delta agent) does not occur in the absence of hepatitis B infection.

The vaccine will not prevent infection caused by other agents such as hepatitis A, hepatitis C and hepatitis E and other pathogens known to infect the liver.

#### **2. What you need to know before you use HBVAXPRO 40 micrograms**

##### **Do not use HBVAXPRO 40 micrograms**

- if you are allergic to hepatitis B surface antigen or to any of the other ingredients of HBVAXPRO (see section 6)
- if you have a severe illness with fever

#### **Warnings and precautions**

The container of this vaccine contains latex rubber. Latex rubber may cause severe allergic reactions.

Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before you receive HBVAXPRO 40 micrograms.

#### **Other vaccines and HBVAXPRO 40 micrograms**

HBVAXPRO can be administered at the same time as with hepatitis B immunoglobulin, at a separate injection site.

HBVAXPRO can be used to complete a primary immunisation course or as a booster dose in subjects who have previously received another hepatitis B vaccine.



HBVAXPRO can be administered at the same time as with other vaccines, using separate sites and syringes.

**Tell your doctor, pharmacist or nurse if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription.**

### **Pregnancy and breast-feeding**

Caution should be exercised when prescribing the vaccine to pregnant or breast-feeding women. Ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse for advice before taking any medicine.

### **Driving and using machines**

HBVAXPRO is expected to have no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

**HBVAXPRO 40 micrograms contains sodium:** This medicinal product contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per dose, that is to say essentially 'sodium- free'.

## **3. How HBVAXPRO 40 micrograms is given**

### **Dosage**

The recommended dose for each injection (1 mL) is 40 micrograms for predialysis and dialysis adult patients

A course of vaccination should include three injections.

The schedule is two injections with an interval of one month followed by a third injection 6 months after the first administration (0, 1, 6 months).

A booster dose must be considered in these vaccinees if the antibody level against hepatitis B virus surface antigen is less than 10 IU/L.

### **Method of administration**

The vial should be well shaken until a slightly opaque white suspension is obtained. The doctor or nurse will give the vaccine as an injection into muscle. The upper arm muscle is the preferred site for injection in adults.

This vaccine should never be given into a blood vessel.

Exceptionally, the vaccine may be administered subcutaneously in patients with thrombocytopaenia (diminution of blood platelets) or to persons at risk of haemorrhage.

### **If you forget one dose of HBVAXPRO 40 micrograms**

If you miss a scheduled injection, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. Your doctor or nurse will decide when to give the missed dose.

If you have any further questions on the use of this product, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

#### **4. Possible side effects**

Like all medicines, this vaccine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

As with other hepatitis B vaccines, in many instances, the causal relationship of side effects to the vaccine has not been established.

The most common side effects seen are injection-site reactions: soreness, redness and hardening.

Other side effects are reported very rarely:

- Low platelet count, Lymph node disease
- Allergic reactions
- Nervous system disorders such as pins and needles, Facial paralysis, Nerve inflammations including Guillain-Barre Syndrome, Inflammation of the nerve of the eye that leads to impaired vision, Brain inflammation, Exacerbation of multiple sclerosis, Multiple sclerosis, Convulsions, Headache, Dizziness and Fainting
- Low blood pressure, Blood vessel inflammation
- Asthma-like symptoms
- Vomiting, Nausea, Diarrhoea, Abdominal pain
- Skin reactions such as eczema, Rash, Itching, Hives and Skin blistering, Hair loss
- Joint pain, Arthritis, Muscle pain, Pain in extremity
- Fatigue, Fever, Vague illness, Flu-like symptoms
- Elevation of liver enzymes
- Inflammation of the eye which causes pain and redness

#### **Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via [the national reporting system listed in Appendix V](#). By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

#### **5. How to store HBVAXPRO 40 micrograms**

Keep this vaccine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this vaccine after the expiry date which is stated on the label.

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C).

Do not freeze.

Store in the original package in order to protect from light.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

## 6. Contents of the pack and other information

### What HBVAXPRO 40 micrograms contains

The active substance is:

Hepatitis B virus surface antigen, recombinant (HBsAg) \*..... 40 micrograms

Adsorbed on amorphous aluminium hydroxyphosphate sulfate (0.50 milligram Al<sup>+</sup>)<sup>#</sup>

\* produced in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (strain 2150-2-3) yeast by recombinant DNA technology.

<sup>#</sup> Amorphous aluminium hydroxyphosphate sulfate is included in this vaccine as an adsorbant. Adsorbants are substances included in certain vaccines to accelerate, improve and/or prolong the protective effects of the vaccine.

The other ingredients are sodium chloride (NaCl), borax and water for injections.

### What HBVAXPRO 40 micrograms looks like and contents of the pack

HBVAXPRO 40 micrograms is a suspension for injection in a vial.

Pack size of 1 vial.

### Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer

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Detailed information on this medicine is available on the European Medicines Agency website:  
<https://www.ema.europa.eu>.

**The following information is intended for medical or health care professionals only:**

**Instructions**

The vaccine should be inspected visually prior to administration for any foreign particulate matter and/or abnormal physical appearance. The vial should be well shaken until a slightly opaque white suspension is obtained.