
VACCINE POINTS

“Vaccine Points” is a bi-monthly communication distributed by the Hawaii Department of Health to all participating Vaccines for Children (VFC) providers.

Test your vaccine knowledge.

Question:

A 14 year old with no history of chickenpox and no varicella vaccination record receives a dose of zoster vaccine in error. Which of the following is/are true?

- a) He should receive a dose of varicella vaccine a minimum of 12 weeks after the zoster vaccine administered in error, and a second dose of varicella vaccine a minimum of 12 weeks after the first varicella dose
- b) He should receive a dose of varicella vaccine a minimum of 4 weeks after the zoster vaccine administered in error, and a second dose of varicella vaccine a minimum of 4 weeks after the first varicella dose
- c) He should receive a dose of varicella vaccine a minimum of 12 weeks after the dose of zoster vaccine administered in error, with no further doses of varicella vaccine required
- d) He should receive a dose of varicella vaccine, a minimum of 4 weeks after the dose of zoster vaccine administered in error, with no further doses of varicella vaccine required
- e) Because zoster vaccine contains an approximately 14 times higher titer of the vaccine virus than in the varicella vaccine (19,400 PFU vs. 1,350PFU), no further doses are required.

http://www.immunize.org/askexperts/experts_zos.asp

Immunization Action Coalition Ask the Expert

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/r5604a1.htm>

Prevention of Varicella: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices

Source:

The dose of zoster vaccine administered in error may be counted as the first of two doses of varicella vaccine for this adolescent who is not immune to varicella. He will still need a second dose of varicella vaccine, which should be administered a minimum of 4 weeks (for children aged 13 years and older) after the dose of zoster vaccine administered in error. For children aged 12 months – 12 years, the minimum interval between two varicella vaccine doses is 12 weeks.

happening again.

This is a serious vaccine administration error. The event should be documented and procedures put in place to prevent this from

(d) He should receive a dose of varicella vaccine, a minimum of 4 weeks after the dose of zoster vaccine administered in error, with no further doses of varicella vaccine required.

Answer:

