

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 child born on 12/29/15 received the following doses of rotavirus vaccine:

- Dose #1: 4/28/16 (Product unknown)
Dose #2: 6/30/16 (Rotarix®)

The baby is in your office today. How many additional doses of rotavirus vaccine should this child receive?

- a) 3
- b) 2
- c) 1
- d) 0

Answer:

d) 0

There are a number of issues in this scenario:

- This child is now over age 8 months 0 days, so **no** doses should be administered, even if the series is incomplete.
- The rotavirus vaccine series should not be started for infants 15 weeks 0 days or older. This child received the first dose of rotavirus vaccine at age 17+ weeks; however, if dose 1 of the rotavirus vaccine is administered inadvertently at age 15 weeks 0 days or older, it is acceptable to give the remaining doses of the series *at the routinely recommended intervals*. Timing of the first dose should not affect the safety and efficacy of the remaining doses.
- Because the product for the first dose is unknown, the child *should* have received a total of 3 doses of rotavirus vaccine; however, the infant is now past the maximum acceptable age to receive further doses.

Source:

MMWR, Prevention of Rotavirus Gastroenteritis Among Infants and Children, Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), February 6, 2009, p. 17
<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr5802.pdf>

