

**ANNEX I**  
**SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS**

## 1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Twinrix Adult, suspension for injection in pre-filled syringe  
Hepatitis A (inactivated) and hepatitis B (rDNA) (HAB) vaccine (adsorbed).

## 2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

1 dose (1 ml) contains:

Hepatitis A virus (inactivated) <sup>1,2</sup>	720 ELISA Units
Hepatitis B surface antigen <sup>3,4</sup>	20 micrograms

<sup>1</sup>Produced on human diploid (MRC-5) cells

<sup>2</sup>Adsorbed on aluminium hydroxide, hydrated 0.05 milligrams Al<sup>3+</sup>

<sup>3</sup>Produced in yeast cells (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) by recombinant DNA technology

<sup>4</sup>Adsorbed on aluminium phosphate 0.4 milligrams Al<sup>3+</sup>

The vaccine may contain traces of neomycin which is used during the manufacturing process (see section 4.3).

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

## 3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Suspension for injection.

Turbid white suspension.

## 4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

### 4.1 Therapeutic indications

Twinrix Adult is indicated for use in non immune adults and adolescents 16 years of age and above who are at risk of both hepatitis A and hepatitis B infection.

### 4.2 Posology and method of administration

#### Posology

##### - Dosage

A dose of 1.0 ml is recommended for adults and adolescents 16 years of age and above.

##### - Primary vaccination schedule

The standard primary course of vaccination with Twinrix Adult consists of three doses, the first administered at the elected date, the second one month later and the third six months after the first dose.

In exceptional circumstances in adults, when travel is anticipated within one month or more after initiating the vaccination course, but where insufficient time is available to allow the standard 0, 1, 6 month schedule to be completed, a schedule of three intramuscular injections given at 0, 7 and 21 days may be used. When this schedule is applied, a fourth dose is recommended 12 months after the first dose.

The recommended schedule should be adhered to. Once initiated, the primary course of vaccination should be completed with the same vaccine.

#### - Booster dose

Long-term antibody persistence data following vaccination with Twinrix Adult are available up to 20 years after vaccination (see section 5.1). The anti-HBs and anti-HAV antibody titres observed following a primary vaccination course with the combined vaccine are in the range of what is seen following vaccination with the monovalent vaccines. General guidelines for booster vaccination can therefore be drawn from experience with the monovalent vaccines.

#### Hepatitis B

The need for a booster dose of hepatitis B vaccine in healthy individuals who have received a full primary vaccination course has not been established; however some official vaccination programmes currently include a recommendation for a booster dose of hepatitis B vaccine and these should be respected.

For some categories of subjects or patients exposed to HBV (e.g; haemodialysis or immunocompromised patients) a precautionary attitude should be considered to ensure a protective antibody level  $\geq 10\text{IU/l}$ .

#### Hepatitis A

It is not yet fully established whether immunocompetent individuals who have responded to hepatitis A vaccination will require booster doses as protection in the absence of detectable antibodies may be ensured by immunological memory. Guidelines for boosting are based on the assumption that antibodies are required for protection.

In situations where a booster dose of both hepatitis A and hepatitis B are desired, Twinrix Adult can be given. Alternatively, subjects primed with Twinrix Adult may be administered a booster dose of either of the monovalent vaccines.

#### Method of administration

Twinrix Adult is for intramuscular injection, preferably in the deltoid region.

Exceptionally the vaccine may be administered subcutaneously in patients with thrombocytopenia or bleeding disorders. However, this route of administration may result in suboptimal immune response to the vaccine (see section 4.4).

### **4.3 Contraindications**

Hypersensitivity to the active substances or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1 or neomycin.

Hypersensitivity after previous administration of hepatitis A and/or hepatitis B vaccines.

The administration of Twinrix Adult should be postponed in subjects suffering from acute severe febrile illness.

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

Syncope (fainting) can occur following, or even before, any vaccination especially in adolescents as a psychogenic response to the needle injection. This can be accompanied by several neurological signs such as transient visual disturbance, paraesthesia and tonic-clonic limb movements during recovery. It is important that procedures are in place to avoid injury from faints.

It is possible that subjects may be in the incubation period of a hepatitis A or hepatitis B infection at the time of vaccination. It is not known whether Twinrix Adult will prevent hepatitis A and hepatitis B in such cases.

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

Twinrix Adult is not recommended for postexposure prophylaxis (e.g. needle stick injury).

The vaccine has not been tested in patients with impaired immunity. In haemodialysis patients and persons with an impaired immune system, adequate anti-HAV and anti-HBs antibody titres may not be obtained after the primary immunisation course and such patients may therefore require administration of additional doses of vaccine.

Obesity (defined as BMI  $\geq$  30 kg/m<sup>2</sup>) has been observed to reduce the immune response to hepatitis A vaccines. 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 Twinrix Adult. Additional doses may need to be considered for persons who do not respond or have a sub-optimal response to a course of vaccinations.

As with all injectable vaccines, appropriate medical treatment and supervision should always be readily available in case of a rare anaphylactic event following the administration of the vaccine.

Since intradermal injection or intramuscular administration into the gluteal muscle could lead to a suboptimal response to the vaccine, these routes should be avoided. However, exceptionally Twinrix Adult can be administered subcutaneously to subjects with thrombocytopenia or bleeding disorders since bleeding may occur following an intramuscular administration to these subjects (see section 4.2).

Twinrix Adult should under no circumstances be administered intravascularly.

As with any vaccine, a protective immune response may not be elicited in all vaccinees.

This vaccine contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per dose, that is to say essentially 'sodium-free'.

#### 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.

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

No data on concomitant administration of Twinrix Adult with specific hepatitis A immunoglobulin or hepatitis B immunoglobulin have been generated. However, when the monovalent hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccines were administered concomitantly with specific immunoglobulins, no influence on seroconversion was observed although it may result in lower antibody titres.

Although the concomitant administration of Twinrix Adult and other vaccines has not specifically been studied, it is anticipated that, if different syringes and other injection sites are used, no interaction will be observed.

It may be expected that in patients receiving immunosuppressive treatment or patients with immunodeficiency, an adequate response may not be achieved.

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

### Pregnancy

The effect of Twinrix Adult on embryo-fetal, peri-natal and post-natal survival and development has been assessed in rats. This study did not indicate direct or indirect harmful effects with respect to fertility, pregnancy, embryonal/fetal development, parturition or post-natal development.

The effect of Twinrix Adult on embryo-fetal, peri-natal and post-natal survival and development has not been prospectively evaluated in clinical trials.

Data on outcomes of a limited number of pregnancies in vaccinated women do not indicate any adverse effects of Twinrix Adult on pregnancy or on the health of the fetus/newborn child. While it is not expected that recombinant hepatitis B virus surface antigen would have adverse effects on pregnancies or the fetus it is recommended that vaccination should be delayed until after delivery unless there is an urgent need to protect the mother against hepatitis B infection.

### Breast-feeding

It is unknown whether Twinrix Adult is excreted in human breast milk. The excretion of Twinrix Adult in milk has not been studied in animals. A decision on whether to continue/discontinue breast-feeding or to continue/discontinue therapy with Twinrix Adult should be made taking into account the benefit of breast-feeding to the child and the benefit of Twinrix Adult therapy to the woman.

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

Twinrix Adult has no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

## **4.8 Undesirable effects**

### **Summary of the safety profile**

The safety profile presented below is based on a pooled analysis of events per dose from more than 6,000 subjects who received either the standard 0, 1, 6 month schedule (n=5,683) or the accelerated 0, 7, 21 days schedule (n=320). The most commonly reported adverse reactions following Twinrix Adult administration with the standard 0, 1, 6 month schedule are pain and redness occurring in a per dose frequency of 37.6% and 17.0% respectively.

In the two clinical trials in which Twinrix Adult was administered at 0, 7, 21 days, overall solicited general and local symptoms were reported with the same categories of frequency as defined below. After a fourth dose given at month 12, the incidence of systemic and local adverse reactions was comparable to that seen after vaccination at 0, 7, 21 days.

In comparative studies, it was noted that the frequency of solicited adverse events following the administration of Twinrix Adult is not different from the frequency of solicited adverse events following the administration of the monovalent vaccines.

### **Tabulated list of adverse reactions**

Frequencies are reported as:

Very common:	≥ 1/10
Common:	≥ 1/100 to < 1/10
Uncommon:	≥ 1/1,000 to < 1/100
Rare:	≥ 1/10,000 to < 1/1,000
Very rare:	< 1/10,000

<b>System Organ Class</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Adverse reactions</b>
<b>Clinical trials</b>		
Infections and infestations	Uncommon	Upper respiratory tract infection
Blood and lymphatic system disorders	Rare	Lymphadenopathy
Metabolism and nutrition disorders	Rare	Decreased appetite
Nervous system disorders	Very common	Headache
	Uncommon	Dizziness
	Rare	Hypoaesthesia, paraesthesia
Vascular disorders	Rare	Hypotension
Gastrointestinal disorders	Common	Gastrointestinal symptoms, diarrhoea, nausea
	Uncommon	Vomiting, abdominal pain*
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders	Rare	Rash, pruritus
	Very rare	Urticaria
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders	Uncommon	Myalgia
	Rare	Arthralgia
General disorders and administration site conditions	Very common	Pain and redness at the injection site, fatigue
	Common	Swelling at the injection site, injection site reactions (such as haematoma, pruritus and bruising), malaise
	Uncommon	Fever ( $\geq 37.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
	Rare	Influenza like illness, chills
<b>Post-marketing surveillance</b>		
The following adverse reactions have been reported with either Twinrix or with GlaxoSmithKline monovalent hepatitis A or B vaccines:		
Infections and infestations	Meningitis	
Blood and lymphatic system disorders	Thrombocytopenia, thrombocytopenic purpura	
Immune system disorders	Anaphylaxis, allergic reactions including anaphylactoid reactions and mimicking serum sickness	
Nervous system disorders	Encephalitis, encephalopathy, neuritis, neuropathy, paralysis, convulsions	
Vascular disorders	Vasculitis	
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders	Angioneurotic oedema, lichen planus, erythema multiforme	
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders	Arthritis, muscular weakness	
General disorders and administration site conditions	Immediate injection site pain	
Following widespread use of the monovalent hepatitis A and/or hepatitis B vaccines, the following undesirable events have additionally been reported in temporal association with vaccination:		
Nervous system disorders	Multiple sclerosis, myelitis, facial palsy, polyneuritis such as Guillain-Barré syndrome (with ascending paralysis), optic neuritis	
General disorders and administration site conditions	Stinging and burning sensation	
Investigations	Abnormal liver function tests	

\* refers to adverse reactions observed in clinical trials performed with the paediatric formulation

#### 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**

Cases of overdose have been reported during post-marketing surveillance. Adverse events reported following overdosage were similar to those reported with normal vaccine administration.

### **5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES**

#### **5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties**

Pharmaco therapeutic group: Hepatitis vaccines, ATC code: J07BC20.

Twinrix Adult is a combined vaccine formulated by pooling bulk preparations of the purified, inactivated hepatitis A (HA) virus and purified hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg), separately adsorbed onto aluminium hydroxide and aluminium phosphate. The HA virus is propagated in MRC<sub>5</sub> human diploid cells. HBsAg is produced by culture, in a selective medium, of genetically engineered yeast cells.

Twinrix Adult confers immunity against HAV and HBV infection by inducing specific anti-HAV and anti-HBs antibodies.

Protection against hepatitis A and hepatitis B develops within 2-4 weeks. In the clinical studies, specific humoral antibodies against hepatitis A were observed in approximately 94% of the adults one month after the first dose and in 100% one month after the third dose (i.e. month 7). Specific humoral antibodies against hepatitis B were observed in 70% of the adults after the first dose and approximately 99% after the third dose.

The 0, 7 and 21 day primary schedule plus a fourth dose at month 12 is for use in exceptional circumstances in adults. In a clinical trial where Twinrix Adult was administered according to this schedule, 82% and 85% of vaccinees had seroprotective levels of anti-HBV antibodies at 1 and 5 weeks respectively following the third dose (i.e. at months 1 and 2 after the initial dose). The seroprotection rate against hepatitis B increased to 95.1% by three months after the first dose.

Seropositivity rates for anti-HAV antibodies were 100%, 99.5% and 100% at months 1, 2 and 3 after the initial dose. One month after the fourth dose, all vaccinees demonstrated seroprotective levels of anti-HBs antibodies and were seropositive for anti-HAV antibodies.

In a clinical study conducted in subjects over 40 years of age, the seropositivity rate for anti-HAV antibodies and seroprotection rate against hepatitis B of Twinrix Adult following a 0, 1, 6 months schedule were compared with the seropositivity and seroprotection rates of monovalent hepatitis A and B vaccines when administered in opposite arms.

The seroprotection rate against hepatitis B after the administration of Twinrix Adult was 92% and 56% at 7 and 48 months respectively, versus 80% and 43% after the GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals monovalent 20µg hepatitis B vaccine, and 71% and 31% after another licensed monovalent 10µg hepatitis B vaccine. Anti-HBs antibody concentrations decreased as age and body mass index increased; they were also lower in male than in female subjects.

The seropositivity rate for anti-HAV antibodies after Twinrix Adult was 97% at both 7 and 48 months versus 99% and 93% after the GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals monovalent hepatitis A vaccine and 99% and 97% after another licensed monovalent hepatitis A vaccine.

Subjects received an additional dose of the same vaccine(s) 48 months after the first dose of the primary vaccination course. One month after this dose, 95% of the subjects vaccinated with Twinrix Adult achieved seroprotective levels of anti-HBV antibodies ( $\geq 10$  mIU/ml).

In two long-term clinical studies conducted in adults aged 17 years to 43 years, respectively 18 and 25 subjects had evaluable tests 20 years after the primary vaccination with Twinrix Adult; the anti-HAV seropositivity rates were 100% and 96% respectively and the anti-HBs seroprotection rates were 94% and 92%, respectively.

## **5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties**

Evaluation of pharmacokinetic properties is not required for vaccines.

## **5.3 Preclinical safety data**

Non-clinical data reveal no special hazard for humans based on general safety studies.

# **6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS**

## **6.1 List of excipients**

Sodium chloride  
Water for injections

For adjuvants, see section 2.

## **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.

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

1 ml of suspension in a pre-filled syringe (type I glass) with a plunger stopper (rubber butyl).  
Pack sizes of 1, 10 and 25 with or without needles.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

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

Upon storage, a fine white deposit with a clear colourless layer above may be observed.

The vaccine should be re-suspended before use. When re-suspended, the vaccine will have a uniform hazy white appearance.

### **Re-suspension of the vaccine to obtain a uniform hazy white suspension**

The vaccine should be re-suspended following the steps below.



1. Hold the syringe upright in a closed hand.
2. Shake the syringe by tipping it upside down and back again.
3. Repeat this action vigorously for at least 15 seconds.
4. Inspect the vaccine again:
  - a. If the vaccine appears as a uniform hazy white suspension, it is ready to use – the appearance should not be clear.
  - b. If the vaccine still does not appear as a uniform hazy white suspension - tip upside down and back again for at least another 15 seconds - then inspect again.

The vaccine should be inspected visually for any foreign particulate matter and/or abnormal physical appearance prior to administration. In the event of either being observed, do not administer the vaccine.

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

## **7. MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals s.a.  
rue de l'Institut 89  
B-1330 Rixensart, Belgium

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

EU/1/96/020/001  
EU/1/96/020/002  
EU/1/96/020/003  
EU/1/96/020/007  
EU/1/96/020/008  
EU/1/96/020/009

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

Date of first authorisation: 20 September 1996  
Date of latest renewal: 28 August 2006

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

Detailed information on this medicinal 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

GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals s.a.  
Rue de l'Institut 89,  
1330 Rixensart  
Belgium

Name and address of the manufacturer responsible for batch release

GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals s.a.  
Rue de l'Institut 89,  
1330 Rixensart  
Belgium

**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)**

Not applicable.

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

## **A. LABELLING**

**PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING**

**1 PRE-FILLED SYRINGE WITHOUT NEEDLE**  
**10 PRE-FILLED SYRINGES WITHOUT NEEDLE**  
**25 PRE-FILLED SYRINGES WITHOUT NEEDLE**  
**1 PRE-FILLED SYRINGE WITH 1 NEEDLE**  
**10 PRE-FILLED SYRINGES WITH 10 NEEDLES**  
**25 PRE-FILLED SYRINGES WITH 25 NEEDLES**

**1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

Twinrix Adult – Suspension for injection in pre-filled syringe  
Hepatitis A (inactivated) and hepatitis B (rDNA) (HAB) vaccine (adsorbed)

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

1 dose (1 ml):  
Hepatitis A virus (inactivated)<sup>1,2</sup> 720 ELISA Units  
Hepatitis B surface antigen<sup>3,4</sup> 20 micrograms

<sup>1</sup>Produced on human diploid (MRC-5) cells

<sup>2</sup>Adsorbed on aluminium hydroxide, hydrated 0.05 milligrams Al<sup>3+</sup>

<sup>3</sup>Produced in yeast cells (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) by recombinant DNA technology

<sup>4</sup>Adsorbed on aluminium phosphate 0.4 milligrams Al<sup>3+</sup>

**3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS**

Sodium chloride  
Water for injections

**4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS**

Suspension for injection in pre-filled syringe

1 pre-filled syringe  
1 dose (1 ml)

10 pre-filled syringes  
10 x 1 dose (1 ml)

25 pre-filled syringes  
25 x 1 dose (1 ml)

1 pre-filled syringe + 1 needle  
1 dose (1 ml)

10 pre-filled syringes + 10 needles  
10 x 1 dose (1 ml)

25 pre-filled syringes + 25 needles  
25 x 1 dose (1 ml)

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

Read the package leaflet before use  
Intramuscular use  
Shake before 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**

**8. EXPIRY DATE**

EXP: MM/YYYY

**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**

GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals s.a.  
Rue de l'Institut 89  
B-1330 Rixensart, Belgium

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

EU/1/96/020/001 - pack of 1 without needle  
EU/1/96/020/002 - pack of 10 without needle  
EU/1/96/020/003 - pack of 25 without needle  
EU/1/96/020/007 - pack of 1 with 1 needle  
EU/1/96/020/008 - pack of 10 with 10 needles  
EU/1/96/020/009 - pack of 25 with 25 needles

**13. 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.

**18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – HUMAN READABLE DATA**

PC  
SN  
NN



**MINIMUM PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON SMALL IMMEDIATE PACKAGING UNITS**

**1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION**

Twinrix Adult, suspension for injection  
HAB vaccine  
I.M.

**2. METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION**

**3. EXPIRY DATE**

EXP:

**4. BATCH NUMBER**

Lot:

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

1 dose (1 ml)

**6. OTHER**

**B. PACKAGE LEAFLET**

## Package leaflet: Information for the user

### **Twinrix Adult, Suspension for injection in pre-filled syringe** Hepatitis A (inactivated) and hepatitis B (rDNA) (HAB) vaccine (adsorbed)

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start receiving this vaccine 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 or your pharmacist.
- This vaccine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

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

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

#### **1. What Twinrix Adult is and what it is used for**

Twinrix Adult is a vaccine used in adults and adolescents 16 years of age and above to prevent two diseases: hepatitis A and hepatitis B. The vaccine works by causing the body to produce its own protection (antibodies) against these diseases.

- **Hepatitis A:** Hepatitis A is an infectious disease, which can affect the liver. This disease is caused by the hepatitis A virus. The hepatitis A virus can be passed from person to person in food and drink, or by swimming in water contaminated by sewage. Symptoms of hepatitis A begin 3 to 6 weeks after coming into contact with the virus. These consist of nausea (feeling sick), fever and aches and pains. After a few days the whites of eyes and skin may become yellowish (jaundice). The severity and type of symptoms can vary. Young children may not develop jaundice. Most people recover completely but the illness is usually severe enough to keep people ill for about a month.
- **Hepatitis B:** Hepatitis B is caused by the hepatitis B virus. It causes the liver to become swollen (inflamed). The virus is found in body fluids such as blood, semen, vaginal secretions, or saliva (spit) of infected people.

Vaccination is the best way to protect against these diseases. None of the components in the vaccine are infectious.

#### **2. What you need to know before you receive Twinrix Adult**

##### **Twinrix Adult should not be given if**

- you are allergic to:
  - the active substances or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).
  - neomycin.Signs of an allergic reaction may include itchy skin rash, shortness of breath and swelling of the face or tongue.
- you have previously had an allergic reaction to any vaccine against hepatitis A and hepatitis B diseases.

- you have a severe infection with a high temperature (over 38°C). A minor infection such as a cold should not be a problem, but talk to your doctor first.

### **Warnings and precautions**

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before receiving Twinrix Adult if

- you have experienced any health problems after previous administration of a vaccine.
- you have a poor immune system due to illness or drug treatment.
- you have a bleeding problem or bruise easily.

Fainting can occur (mostly in adolescents) following, or even before, any needle injection. Therefore tell the doctor or nurse if you fainted with a previous injection.

A poor response to the vaccine, possibly without achieving protection against hepatitis A, has been observed in obese people. A poor response to the vaccine, possibly without achieving protection against hepatitis B, has also been observed in older people, men rather than women, smokers, obese people, and people with long standing illnesses, or people on some type of drug treatments. Your doctor may advise you to have a blood test after you have completed the course of vaccinations to check if you have made a satisfactory response. If not, your doctor will advise you on the possible need to have extra doses.

### **Other medicines and Twinrix Adult**

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken or might take any other medicines.

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

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think that you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before you are given this vaccine. It is not known if Twinrix Adult passes into breast milk, however the vaccine is not expected to cause problems in breast-fed babies.

### **Twinrix Adult contains neomycin and sodium**

Please tell your doctor if you have had an allergic reaction to neomycin (antibiotic).

This vaccine contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per dose, that is to say essentially 'sodium-free'.

## **3. How Twinrix Adult is given**

You will receive a total of three injections over 6 months. Each injection is given on a separate visit. The first dose will be given on an elected date. The remaining two doses will be given one month, and six months after the first dose.

- First dose: at an elected date
- Second dose: 1 month later
- Third dose: 6 months after the first dose

Twinrix Adult can also be given as a total of three doses over 1 month. This schedule may be given to adults only needing a rapid protection (e.g. overseas travellers). The first dose will be given on an elected date. The remaining 2 doses will be given 7 days and 21 days after the first dose. A fourth dose is recommended at 12 months.

- First dose: at an elected date
- Second dose: 7 days later
- Third dose: 21 days after the first dose
- Fourth dose: 12 months after the first dose

Your doctor will advise on the possible need for extra doses, and future booster dosing.

As indicated in section 2, a poor response to the vaccine, possibly without achieving protection against hepatitis B, is more common in older people, men rather than women, smokers, obese people, and people with long standing illnesses, or people on some type of drug treatments. Your doctor may advise you to have a blood test after you have completed the course of vaccinations to check if you have made a satisfactory response. If not, your doctor will advise you on the possible need to have extra doses.

If you miss a scheduled injection, talk to your doctor and arrange another visit.

Make sure you finish the complete vaccination course of three injections. If not, you may not be fully protected against the diseases.

The doctor will give Twinrix Adult as an injection into your upper arm muscle.

The vaccine should not be given (deep) into the skin or intramuscularly into the buttock because protection may be less.

The vaccine should never be given into a vein.

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

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

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

Side effects that may occur are the following:

**Very common** (These may occur in 1 in 10 doses or more of the vaccine):

- Headache
- Pain and redness at the injection site
- Tiredness

**Common** (These may occur in up to 1 in 10 doses of the vaccine):

- Diarrhoea, nausea
- Swelling, bruising or itching at the injection site
- Generally feeling unwell

**Uncommon** (These may occur in up to 1 in 100 doses of the vaccine):

- Dizziness
- Vomiting, stomach pain
- Aching muscles
- Upper respiratory tract infection
- Fever equal to or greater than 37.5°C

**Rare** (These may occur in up to 1 in 1,000 doses of the vaccine):

- Swollen glands in the neck armpit or groin (lymphadenopathy)
- Loss of skin sensitivity to pain or touch (hypoesthesia)
- Feeling of pins and needles (paraesthesia)
- Rash, itching
- Joint pain
- Loss of appetite
- Low blood pressure
- Flu-like symptoms such as high temperature, sore throat, runny nose, cough and chills

**Very rare** (These may occur in up to 1 in 10,000 doses of the vaccine):

Side effects occurred very rarely during clinical studies or routine use of the vaccine or with individual hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccines include:

- Reduction in blood platelets, which increases risk of bleeding or bruising (thrombocytopenia)
- Purple or red brown spots visible through the skin (thrombocytopenic purpura)
- Swelling or infection of the brain (encephalitis)
- Degenerative disease of the brain (encephalopathy)
- Inflammation of nerves (neuritis)
- Numbness or weakness of the arms and legs (neuropathy), paralysis
- Fits or seizures
- Swelling of the face, mouth or throat (angioneurotic oedema)
- Purple or reddish-purple bumps on the skin (lichen planus), serious skin rashes (erythema multiforme), hives
- Joint swelling, muscular weakness
- Infection around the brain which may give severe headache with stiff neck and sensitivity to light (meningitis)
- Inflammation of some blood vessels (vasculitis)
- Serious allergic reactions (anaphylaxis, anaphylactoid reactions and mimicking serum sickness). Signs of serious allergic reactions may be rashes that may be itchy or blistering, swelling of the eyes and face, difficulty in breathing or swallowing, a sudden drop in blood pressure and loss of consciousness. Such reactions may occur before leaving the doctor's surgery. However, if you get any of these symptoms you should contact a doctor urgently.
- Abnormal laboratory liver test results
- Multiple sclerosis, swelling of the spinal cord (myelitis)
- Drooping eyelid and sagging muscles on one side of the face (facial palsy)
- A temporary inflammation of the nerves, causing pain, weakness and paralysis in the extremities and often progressing to the chest and face (Guillain-Barré syndrome)
- A disease of the nerves of the eye (optic neuritis)
- Immediate injection site pain, stinging and burning feeling

### **Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. 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 Twinrix Adult**

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

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the carton. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Store in a refrigerator (2°C - 8°C).

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

Do not freeze. Freezing destroys the vaccine.

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 Twinrix Adult contains

- The active substances are:

Hepatitis A virus (inactivated) <sup>1,2</sup>	720 ELISA Units
Hepatitis B surface antigen <sup>3,4</sup>	20 micrograms
  
- |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| <sup>1</sup> Produced on human diploid (MRC-5) cells   |                                  |
| <sup>2</sup> Adsorbed on aluminium hydroxide, hydrated   | 0.05 milligrams Al <sup>3+</sup> |
| <sup>3</sup> Produced in yeast cells ( <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> ) by recombinant DNA technology |                                  |
| <sup>4</sup> Adsorbed on aluminium phosphate   | 0.4 milligrams Al <sup>3+</sup>  |
  
- The other ingredients in Twinrix Adult are: sodium chloride, water for injections.

## What Twinrix Adult looks like and contents of the pack

Suspension for injection in pre-filled syringe.

Twinrix Adult is a white, slightly milky liquid presented in a glass pre-filled syringe (1 ml).

Twinrix Adult is available in packs of 1, 10, and 25 with or without needles.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

## Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer

GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals s.a.  
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**This leaflet was last revised in**

**Other sources of information**

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

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The following information is intended for healthcare professionals only:



Upon storage, a fine white deposit with a clear colourless layer above may be observed.

The vaccine should be re-suspended before use. When re-suspended, the vaccine will have a uniform hazy white appearance.

### **Re-suspension of the vaccine to obtain a uniform hazy white suspension**

The vaccine should be re-suspended following the steps below.

1. Hold the syringe upright in a closed hand.
2. Shake the syringe by tipping it upside down and back again.
3. Repeat this action vigorously for at least 15 seconds.
4. Inspect the vaccine again:
  - a. If the vaccine appears as a uniform hazy white suspension, it is ready to use – the appearance should not be clear.
  - b. If the vaccine still does not appear as a uniform hazy white suspension - tip upside down and back again for at least another 15 seconds - then inspect again.

The vaccine should be inspected visually for any foreign particulate matter and/or abnormal physical appearance prior to administration. In the event of either being observed, do not administer the vaccine.

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