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On Drugs and Therapeutics

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Volume 51 (Issue 1324)
November 2, 2009

www.medicalletter.org

IN BRIEF

A New Hib Booster

In 2007, Merck voluntarily recalled some lots of *PedvaxHIB* and *Comvax*, two *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) vaccines, and temporarily stopped their production because of possible contamination, resulting in a shortage during which pediatricians were urged to defer giving Hib booster doses (normally given at 12-15 months) to healthy children. Now the FDA has granted accelerated licensure of *Hiberix* (GlaxoSmithKline), a monovalent vaccine conjugated with tetanus toxoid that has been used in Europe since 1996, as a booster (final) dose of the Hib series in children 15 months-4 years old. *Hiberix* can also be given to children 12-15 months old as a scheduled booster dose.¹

1. Licensure of a *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) vaccine (*Hiberix*) and updated recommendations for use of Hib vaccine. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2009; 58:1008.

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