

# **EXPANDING THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF *Haemophilus influenzae* type *b* VACCINES BY OPTIMIZING IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULES**

## **POLICY QUESTION**

**What are optimal immunization schedules for  
*Haemophillus influenzae* type b (Hib) vaccines for  
children living in different  
epidemiological settings?**

# **WHO Ad Hoc Expert Consultation on Hib vaccination schedules , Geneva on 3-4 October 2012**

## **Objectives:**

**To review the evidence on Hib vaccination  
schedules**

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# POLICY QUESTION

**What are optimal immunization schedules for Haemophilus Influenzae type b vaccines (Hib) for children living in different epidemiological settings?**

Number of doses

Age at 1st dose

Interval between primary doses

Interval between last primary dose and booster

Children in special circumstances

# Suggested Hib vaccine schedule

## Number of doses: at least 3 doses

3 primary doses (3p+0) or 2 primary doses plus a booster (2p+1).

## Age at administration of first dose: at 6 weeks or soon thereafter

## Interval between primary doses: no difference between 4 and 8 weeks

## HIV infected children- a booster dose

Regardless of the number of primary doses and irrespective of whether or not the child is receiving anti-retroviral therapy.

## Emergency settings – At least one dose for children <5 yrs old:

for < 12 months old, an additional dose should be provided if conditions permit (Emergency Working Group). For infants < 6 months old, Hib-OMP is preferred for the 1<sup>st</sup> dose