

## **PACKAGE LEAFLET: INFORMATION FOR THE USER**

### **DUKORAL suspension and effervescent granules for oral suspension**

Cholera vaccine (inactivated, oral)

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using 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, nurse or 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, pharmacist or nurse. . This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See Section 4.
- Make sure to mix the vaccine with buffer solution as described in this leaflet. See Section 3.

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

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

#### **1. What Dukoral is and what it is used for**

Dukoral is an oral vaccine against cholera that stimulates the immunological defence in the gut. The vaccine protects adults and children from 2 years of age against cholera.

Dukoral causes your body to produce its own protection against cholera. After getting the vaccine, your body will make substances called antibodies, which fight the cholera bacteria and toxin that cause diarrhoea.

#### **2. What you need to know before you use Dukoral**

##### **Do not use Dukoral**

- if you are allergic to any ingredient of the vaccine or to formaldehyde.
- if you have an acute stomach disorder or infection with fever (vaccination should be delayed).

##### **Warnings and precautions**

Talk to your doctor before taking Dukoral

- if you take a medical treatment that affects the immune system
- if you have a disease of the immune system (including AIDS).

The vaccine may provide you with a lower level of protection than it does for people with healthy immune systems.

The vaccine does not provide complete protection and it is important to adhere to dietary and hygiene advice to avoid diarrhoeal diseases.

##### **Children**

Do not give this vaccine to children younger than 2 years since the protection has not been studied in this group.

##### **Other medicines and Dukoral**

Please tell your doctor if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines.

Do not take other medicine starting 1 hour before until 1 hour after taking the vaccine.

### **Using Dukoral with food and drink**

Avoid food and drink starting 1 hour before until 1 hour after the vaccination.

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

If you are pregnant, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby or are breast-feeding, ask your doctor before taking the vaccine.

### **Driving and using machines**

There are no reasons to suspect that Dukoral will affect your ability to drive or handle machines

### **Dukoral contains sodium**

Dukoral contains approximately 1.1 g sodium per dose. Please take this into consideration if you are on a controlled sodium diet.

## **3. How to use Dukoral**

Always use this vaccine exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with your doctor if you are not sure.

*Adults and children from 6 years of age:* The primary vaccination is 2 doses taken orally (by mouth) at least 1 week (up to 6 weeks) apart.

- Take the 1<sup>st</sup> dose no later than 2 weeks before you leave for your trip.
- Take the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose at least 1 week after the 1<sup>st</sup> dose and at least 1 week before your trip.

It takes about 1 week after the last dose for protection to begin.

For continuous protection, re-vaccination is recommended within 2 years. If you had your last dose of vaccine less than 2 years ago a single dose will renew your protection. If more than 2 years have passed since you had the last vaccine dose, the primary vaccination (2 doses) should be repeated.

*Children of 2 to 6 years of age:* The primary vaccination is 3 doses taken orally (by mouth) at least 1 week (up to 6 weeks) apart. Only half of the amount of the buffer solution should be mixed with the vaccine.

- Give the 1<sup>st</sup> dose to the child no later than 3 weeks before you leave for your trip.
- Give the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose to the child at least 1 week after the 1<sup>st</sup> dose.
- Give the 3<sup>rd</sup> dose at least one week after the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose and at least one week before your trip.

It takes about 1 week after the last dose for protection to begin.

For continuous protection, re-vaccination is recommended within 6 months. If less than 6 months have passed since the last vaccination a single dose will renew the protection. If more than 6 months have passed since the last vaccination, the primary vaccination (3 doses) should be repeated.

The vaccine is a whitish suspension supplied in a single-dose glass bottle. Each dose of vaccine comes with one sachet package that contains white effervescent granules of sodium hydrogen carbonate. The granules should be dissolved in a glass of cool water, and the resulting buffer solution should be mixed with the vaccine. It is important to use the buffer solution, as it protects the vaccine from the gastric acid.

Drink the vaccine within 2 hours after mixing with the buffer solution.

## Instructions:



1. To prepare buffer solution dissolve the effervescent granules in a glass of cool water (approx. 150 ml).  
Do not use any other liquid.  
*Children 2-6 years: pour away half of the buffer solution.*



2. Shake the vaccine bottle (1 bottle = 1 dose).



3. Add the vaccine to the buffer solution. Mix well and drink the mixture.  
Drink the vaccine within 2 hours after mixing with the buffer solution.  
Avoid food and drink starting 1 hour before until 1 hour after the vaccination.

### **If you take more Dukoral than you should**

If you take the doses less than one week apart, contact your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

Because each bottle of Dukoral contains only one dose, overdosage is unlikely.

If you have taken more than one dose at one time, please contact your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

### **If you forget to take Dukoral.**

You can take the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose of Dukoral up to 6 weeks after the 1<sup>st</sup> dose (children 2 to 6 years have to take 3 doses). If more than 6 weeks have passed, contact your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

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

## **4. Possible side effects**

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

Contact a doctor immediately if you experience the following serious side effects:

- severe diarrhea with loss of water from the body
- serious allergic reactions causing swelling of the face or throat and breathlessness

Other side effects:

Uncommon side effects (may affect up to 1 in a 100 people)

- Diarrhoea, stomach pain, stomach cramps, gurgling stomach, bloated stomach, stomach gas and general stomach discomfort
- Headache

Rare side effects (may affect up to 1 in a 1,000 people)

- Fever
- Generally feeling unwell, feeling dizzy
- Nausea (feeling sick), vomiting, loss of /or poor appetite
- Swelling irritation inside the nose, and cough.

Very rare side effects (may affect up to 1 in a 10,000 people)

- Rash
- Sore throat, reduced sense of taste
- Fatigue/feeling tired
- Sweating, shivering
- Joint pain

- Difficulty in sleeping

Other side effects (frequency cannot be estimated from the available data)

- Flu -like symptoms, chestiness, chills, general pain, weakness
- Hives, itching
- Swelling of the lymph glands
- Numbness or pins and needles
- High blood pressure

### **Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, nurse or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly to Yellow Card Scheme Website: [www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard](http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard).

By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

## **5. How to store Dukoral**

Keep out of the reach and sight of children.

Do not use Dukoral after the expiry date which is stated on the carton.

Store in a refrigerator (2°C – 8°C). Do not freeze.

Product in the unopened bottle and sachet, stored in the outer carton, is stable at temperatures up to 25°C for a period of 14 days. At the end of this period the product should be used or discarded.

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.

## **6. Contents of the pack and other information**

### **What Dukoral contains**

- The active substances are:  
31.25x10<sup>9</sup> bacteria\* of each of the following *V. cholerae* O1 strains: Inaba classical biotype (heat inactivated), Inaba El Tor biotype (formalin inactivated), Ogawa classical biotype (heat inactivated), Ogawa classical biotype (formalin inactivated).  
Recombinant cholera toxin B subunit (rCTB) 1 mg.  
\*bacterial content prior to inactivation
- The other ingredients in the vaccine suspension are sodium dihydrogen phosphate, disodium hydrogen phosphate, sodium chloride and water for injections.
- The effervescent granules contain sodium hydrogen carbonate, citric acid, sodium carbonate, saccharin sodium, sodium citrate and raspberry flavour.

### **What Dukoral looks like and contents of the pack**

Dukoral is presented as a suspension and effervescent granules for oral suspension. The vaccine is a whitish suspension supplied in a bottle. The effervescent granules are white with a raspberry flavour and are supplied in a sachet.

Dukoral is available in packs of 1, 2 and 20 doses. Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

### **Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer**

Crucell Sweden AB, 105 21 Stockholm, Sweden.

[infocrucellse@its.jnj.com](mailto:infocrucellse@its.jnj.com)

**This leaflet was last revised in 09/2014**

**Other sources of information**

Detailed information on this medicine is available on the European Medicines Agency web site:

<http://www.ema.europa.eu>

This leaflet is available in all EU/EEA languages on the European Medicines Agency website