

## **PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET**

TETAVAKSAL-T®, not less than 40 IU/0.5 mL; suspension for injection  
tetanus vaccine, adsorbed

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine 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 pharmacist or nurse.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects talk to your doctor or pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

**What is in this leaflet:**

1. What TETAVAKSAL-T is and what it is used for
2. Before you receive TETAVAKSAL-T
3. How to use TETAVAKSAL-T
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store TETAVAKSAL-T
6. Contents of the pack and other information

## **1. What TETAVAKSAL-T is and what it is used for**

TETAVAKSAL-T is a single antigen vaccine and consists of purified tetanus toxoid adsorbed on a mineral carrier (aluminium phosphate).

The TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine is intended for the booster immunization of adults against tetanus, as well as for post-exposure prophylaxis against tetanus in case of injury.

The TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine is not indicated for the treatment of active tetanus disease caused by *Clostridium tetani*.

The TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine should be administered in accordance with the applicable national regulations on active immunization.

### Booster immunization:

In completely immunized (primary and booster vaccination as per their age), booster immunization is performed using a single booster dose of 0.5 mL of TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine, every 10 years since the last dose of tetanus toxoid vaccine received. Boosters should not be generally given at intervals of less than 10 years because of an increased incidence and seriousness of adverse events that can be manifested following immunization with TT vaccine (a vaccine containing tetanus toxoid (TT), i.e., tetanus vaccine).

### In case of an injury:

Completely immunized (primary and booster vaccination as per their age) injured persons who have a small and clean wound, and if less than 10 years have passed since the last dose of tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine, do not receive the tetanus vaccine.

Completely immunized (primary and booster vaccination as per their age) injured persons with open wounds, gashes or shot wounds, fractures, burns, frostbites, wounds contaminated with dirt, dust, soil, faeces or saliva, and other severe injuries, can receive 0.5 mL of a booster dose of tetanus vaccine right after injury, if necessary, if the period between the last dose of the vaccine and the injury exceeds 5 years.

Completely immunized (primary and booster vaccination as per their age) injured persons should receive 0.5 mL of tetanus vaccine and 250 IU of human antitetanus immunoglobulin right after the injury, if the period between the last dose of the vaccine and the injury exceeds 10 years.

Non-immunized persons, incompletely immunized or persons without any evidence of tetanus immunization are to receive three individual doses of 0.5 mL of TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine according to the following scheme: the first dose of TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine is to be administered immediately, the second dose after at least a month's time, and the third dose six months after the second dose. Right after the injury, these persons receive human antitetanus immunoglobulin concurrently with the first dose of the vaccine.

In the vaccinee's organism, TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine induces the generation of specific antibodies, thus the organism becomes immune to tetanus, a bacterial disease. The antibody concentration, concentration of antigen-antibody complexes (avidity) and also the duration of protection after the immunization with tetanus vaccine depend on a number of factors, including the age of the vaccinees, number of doses received and intervals between vaccine doses. Administration of three doses of tetanus toxoid-containing combination vaccines in infancy will give 3-5 years' protection, a booster in childhood will provide protection into adolescence, and one booster dose of tetanus vaccine in

adolescence will induce good immunity throughout most part of adulthood. One booster dose of tetanus vaccine in adulthood will induce good immunity throughout the period of 10 years.

## **2. What you need to know before you take TETAVAKSAL-T**

### **Do not use TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine:**

- if you are allergic (hypersensitive) to TT vaccine, adsorbed or to some TT vaccine components (see section 6) or to a previous TT vaccine dose (in this case, vaccine must not be administered).
- Moderate to severe acute disease with or without fever (in this case, the administration of the vaccine should be postponed until the patient's condition stabilises).
- *Gullain-Barre* syndrome (GBS) manifested within 6 weeks after the administration of the previous dose of tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine (in this case, the vaccine is to be administered only if benefit for the patient exceeds potential risks following application).
- *Arthus'* type of hypersensitivity reaction manifested after the administration of the previous dose of tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine (in this case, vaccination should be postponed for the period of at least 10 years after the last administration of tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine).

### **Warnings and precautions**

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist or nurse before taking TETAVAKSAL-T

- TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine (TT vaccine) is a homogenous whitish suspension that may form a whitish precipitate if left undisturbed. The precipitate is easily dispersed by gently swirling the vial. In case of a change in the physical appearance of the suspension (colour change, decolouration, presence of visible particles, not easily removable precipitate) and in the case of freezing, the vaccine must not be applied.
- Prior to TT vaccine administration, an assessment of the vaccinee's health status needs to be done to determine if certain contraindications to the applications of vaccine are present, or if there is a need to postpone immunization or the need for patient's risk/benefit assessment.
- Prior to vaccination, all relevant information on the vaccinee's medical status need to be collected so as to take appropriate precautions (if necessary).
- Before each subsequent administration of TT vaccine, it is necessary to ask the vaccinee (or a parent) what adverse reactions, if any, manifested after the administration of the previous dose.
- Prior to the immunization, it is necessary to have a detailed medical history of the previous hypersensitive reactions for each patient. In patients allergic to certain medicines (or food) or those prone to hypersensitive reactions after the contact with various agents, special precautions need to be taken during the TT vaccine application.
- The health institution in which the vaccination takes place must provide suitable medical treatment in case of an anaphylactic shock. All vaccinees should be under the doctor's supervision for at least 30 minutes after the vaccine administration.
- TT vaccine must not be injected intravascularly, so during the intramuscular application, it should be ensured that the needle does not enter a blood vessel.
- Patients with primary or acquired immunodeficiency can be vaccinated, but their immune response to TT vaccine will be reduced depending on the immune system condition. Immunosuppressive drugs may also reduce immune response.

- Intramuscular application of drugs to persons with thrombocytopenia or other coagulation disorders (e.g. haemophilia) is contraindicated. Therefore, TT vaccine is not to be administered to such persons.

## **THE VACCINE MUST NOT BE ADMINISTERED INTRAVENOUSLY!**

### *Genotoxicity and Carcinogenicity*

Preclinical studies on genotoxicity or carcinogenicity of the tetanus vaccine, adsorbed, have not been conducted so far, according to literature data from the period of more than 50 years.

### *Reproductive toxicity*

Preclinical trials of tetanus vaccine reproductive toxicity have not been conducted and it is not known whether tetanus toxoid may show teratogenic effects and cause fetal harm.

### **Other medicines and TETAVAKSAL-T**

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

TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine can be administered concurrently with other vaccines or human tetanus immunoglobulin, if injected at separate sites. The vaccine must not be mixed with other vaccines and/or other medicines in the same syringe.

Immunosuppressive drugs (e.g. corticosteroids, corticotropin, alkylating cytostatics, antimetabolites) and radiotherapy can reduce immune response to TT vaccine.

### **Using TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine with food and drink**

No data.

### **Fertility, pregnancy and breastfeeding**

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

**Pregnancy:** Preclinical trials of tetanus vaccine reproductive toxicity have not been conducted and it is not known whether tetanus toxoid may show teratogenic effects and cause fetal harm. Therefore, tetanus vaccine is administered to pregnant women only when necessary. In that case, tetanus vaccine should be administered in the second or the third trimester to pregnant women who did not receive the complete primary series of 3 doses, or respective evidence is lacking, in order to take precautions and to minimize the possibility of teratogenic effects occurrence.

**Breastfeeding:** It is not known whether tetanus vaccine is excreted in breast milk, and caution should be exercised when TT vaccine is administered during breastfeeding period.

### **Driving and using machines**

TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine does not affect the psychophysical capacities.

TETAVAKSAL-T contains an excipient with confirmed action of thiomersal

This medicine contains thiomersal as a preservative and may cause an allergic reaction in you/your child. In case of any type of allergy, talk to your doctor.

Tell your doctor if you have had any problems with your previous vaccination.

This medicine contains less than 1 mmol (23 mg) sodium per dose. it is essentially "sodium-free".

### 3. How to use TETAVAKSAL-T

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

#### Method of administration:

TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine is administered as intramuscular injection, by injecting 0.5 mL dose into the deltoid muscle. When tetanus vaccine is to be applied concurrently with another vaccine or human antitetanus immunoglobulin that is administered the same way (by intramuscular injection), their application is to be performed into the opposite body parts (e.g. TT vaccine into the right upper arm, human antitetanus immunoglobulin or other vaccine into the left upper arm). A new disposable syringe and needle should be used for each separate site of administration.

#### Note:

The vaccine should always be gently swirled before use in order to obtain a homogeneous suspension. A new disposable syringe and needle should be used for each patient. Keep the vaccine at room temperature for a short while prior to the injection.

#### If you use more TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine than you should

No data.

#### If you forget to take TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine

Not applicable.

#### If you stopped taking TETAVAKSAL-T

Not applicable.

### 4. Possible side effects

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

Per their frequency, adverse reactions are classified into:

- very common (may affect more than 1 in 10 patients taking the medicine);
- common (may affect up to 1 in 10 patients taking the medicine);
- uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 patients taking the medicine);
- rare (may affect up to 1 in 1,000 patients taking the medicine);
- very rare (may affect up to 1 in 10,000 patients taking the medicine);
- not known (frequency cannot be estimated from the available data);

Side effects that can be manifested following immunization with tetanus vaccine are listed in table:

frequency/organ system	very common	common	uncommon	rare	very rare
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General disorders and injection site reactions	pain, swelling, redness	irritability, exhaustion, general malaise	high fever ( $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), chills, headache, joint and muscle pains	infiltration in the form of lumps	sterile abscess
immune system disorders	/	/	/	/	allergic reactions (rash, pruritus, urticaria) including anaphylaxis (anaphylactoid or anaphylactic reaction), <i>Arthus'</i> type of hypersensitivity reaction
gastrointestinal disorders	/	/	/	/	/
neurological disorders	/	/	/	/	brachial neuritis, <i>Guillain-Barre</i> syndrome

The incidence and severity of local adverse reactions following tetanus vaccine administration increases with the number of doses given. Hyperimmunised persons, that is, persons with high titres of antitetanus antibodies prior to immunization, can experience more serious and severe adverse reactions.

If any side effect becomes serious, or if you observe any side effect not stated in this leaflet, please inform your doctor about it.

#### Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine. You can report side effects to the Medicines and Medical Devices Agency of Serbia (ALIMS):

The Medicines and Medical Devices Agency of Serbia  
National Pharmacovigilance Centre  
458 Vojvode Stepe St, 11221 Belgrade  
Republic of Serbia  
website: [www.alims.gov.rs](http://www.alims.gov.rs)  
e-mail: [nezeljeni.reakcija@alims.gov.rs](mailto:nezeljeni.reakcija@alims.gov.rs)

#### 5. How to store TETAVAKSAL-T

Keep TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine out of reach of children.

Do not use TETAVAKSAL-T after the expiration of the date stated on the outer packaging. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Keep TETAVAKSAL-T at temperature from 2°C to 8°C in refrigerator in the original packaging.

Do not freeze.

Vaccines that have been frozen are not to be used.

Unusable medicines are handed over to a pharmacy in which a notice is displayed stating that unusable medicines are collected from citizens in that pharmacy. Do not throw any medicines via wastewater or household waste. These measures will help to protect the environment.

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

### **What TETAVAKSAL-T contains**

#### **Active substance:**

One ampoule of TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine contains 1 dose.

One vaccine dose (0.5 mL) contains concentrated and purified tetanus toxoid not less than 40 IU

#### **Excipients:**

Aluminium phosphate up to up to 1.25 mg Al

Thiomersal 0.05 mg

Sodium chloride 4.5 mg

Sodium hydroxide q.s.

Sodium hydrogen carbonate q.s.

Water for injections up to 0.5 mL

### **What TETAVAKSAL-T looks like and content of the pack**

Suspension for injection: homogeneous white suspension; by standing, a whitish precipitate separates and resuspends by shaking.

The inner packaging is a clear glass ampoule (hydrolytic type I), total volume of 1 mL.

Outer packaging is a collapsible cardboard box containing a PVC blister package with 10 ampoules (10 x 1 mL) and patient information leaflet.

### **Authorisation holder and Manufacturer**

Institute of Virology, Vaccines and Sera TORLAK

458 Vojvode Stepe St; Belgrade

e-mail: [office@torlak.rs](mailto:office@torlak.rs)

### **This leaflet was last approved in**

February, 2021.

### **Dispensing regime:**

The medicine can be administered in health institutions.

**Marketing authorisation number and date:**

Number of authorisation:

515-01-01344-20-001 as of 23 February 2021

**THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ARE INTENDED ONLY FOR MEDICAL STAFF**

## Therapeutic indications

The TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine is intended for the booster immunization of adults against tetanus, as well as for post-exposure prophylaxis against tetanus in case of injury.

The TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine is not indicated for the treatment of active tetanus disease caused by *Clostridium tetani*.

**Dosage and method of administration**

The TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine should be administered in accordance with the applicable national regulations on active immunization.

**Booster immunization:**

In completely immunized (primary and booster vaccination as per their age), booster immunization is performed using a single booster dose of 0.5 mL of TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine, every 10 years since the last dose of tetanus toxoid vaccine received. Boosters should not be generally given at intervals of less than 10 years because of an increased incidence and seriousness of adverse events that can be manifested following immunization with TT vaccine (a vaccine containing tetanus toxoid (TT), i.e., tetanus vaccine).

**In case of an injury:**

Completely immunized (primary and booster vaccination as per their age) injured persons who have a small and clean wound, and if less than 10 years have passed since the last dose of tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine, do not receive the tetanus vaccine.

Completely immunized (primary and booster vaccination as per their age) injured persons with open wounds, gashes or shot wounds, fractures, burns, frostbites, wounds contaminated with dirt, dust, soil, faeces or saliva, and other severe injuries, can receive 0.5 mL of a booster dose of tetanus vaccine right after injury, if necessary, if the period between the last dose of the vaccine and the injury exceeds 5 years.

Completely immunized (primary and booster vaccination as per their age) injured persons should receive 0.5 mL of tetanus vaccine and 250 IU of human antitetanus immunoglobulin right after the injury, if the period between the last dose of the vaccine and the injury exceeds 10 years.

Non-immunized persons, incompletely immunized or persons without any evidence of tetanus immunization are to receive three individual doses of 0.5 mL of TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine according to the following scheme: the first dose of TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine is to be administered immediately, the second dose after at least a month's time, and the third dose six months after the second dose. Right after the



injury, these persons receive human antitetanus immunoglobulin concurrently with the first dose of the vaccine.

**Method of administration:**

TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine is administered as intramuscular injection, by injecting 0.5 mL dose into the deltoid muscle. When tetanus vaccine is to be applied concurrently with another vaccine or human antitetanus immunoglobulin that is administered the same way (by intramuscular injection), their application is to be performed into the opposite body parts (e.g. TT vaccine into the right upper arm, human antitetanus immunoglobulin or other vaccine into the left upper arm). A new disposable syringe and needle should be used for each separate site of administration.

**Note:**

The vaccine should always be gently swirled before use in order to obtain a homogeneous suspension. A new disposable syringe and needle should be used for each patient. Keep the vaccine at room temperature for a short while prior to the injection.

**Manner and site of administration:**

The vaccine can be administered only in health institutions, under the doctor's supervision.

List of excipients:

Aluminium Phosphate up to 1.25 mg Al

Thiomersal 0.05 mg

Sodium chloride 4.5 mg

Sodium hydroxide q.s.

Sodium hydrogen carbonate q.s.

Water for injections up to 0.5 mL

Incompatibility

The vaccine must not be mixed with other vaccines and/or other medicines in the same syringe.

Shelf-life

Shelf-life of TETAVAKSAL-T vaccine: 2 years

Special precautions during storage

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

Keep TETAVAKSAL-T at temperature from 2°C to 8°C in refrigerator in the original packaging.

Do not freeze.

Vaccines that have been frozen are not to be used.

Nature and content of the pack

The inner packaging is a clear glass ampoule (hydrolytic type I), total volume of 1 mL.

Outer packaging is a collapsible cardboard box containing a PVC blister package with 10 ampoules (10 x 1 mL) and patient information leaflet.

Special precautions when disposing of material to be discarded after drug administration (and other instructions for handling)

Empty ampoules, as well as used syringes, needles and disinfectant material, should be disposed of safely in special polyethylene bags and purpose-built containers and disposed of properly with other medical waste.

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