



## Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

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[MHRA Website](https://www.mhra.gov.uk)

Our Ref: **FOI2025/00333**

6<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FoI) request received on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2025. You wrote:

*I'd like to know what adverse reactions have been reported for vaccinations given in the UK for hepatitis A, Typhoid and the combined tetanus/poilo/diphtheria vaccines.*

### MHRA Response

We confirm that we hold the information you have requested.

Firstly, I feel it may be beneficial to provide some information on the Yellow Card scheme to provide further context on the information provided. The Yellow Card Scheme is the UK system for collecting and monitoring information on suspected Adverse Drug Reactions (ADRs) and incidents in association with medicines, vaccines and medical devices. The Scheme is run by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) on behalf of the Commission on Human Medicines (CHM) and currently relies on voluntary reporting of suspected ADRs by health professionals and patients. It's vital to note that Yellow Card reports are made based on suspicion and are therefore not conclusive evidence that the medicine or vaccine caused the suspected reaction(s).

In response to this query, we have conducted a search of our database and provided this data for you. Please see the table below.

*Table 1: Total number of UK spontaneous suspected Adverse Drug Reaction (ADR) reports associated with Hepatitis A, Typhoid and Combined Diphtheria, Tetanus Polio vaccine up to and including 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025.*

Vaccine Name	Number of reports
Hepatitis A (single constituent vaccine)	1,723
Typhoid (single constituent vaccine)	1,856
Combined Hepatitis A and Typhoid vaccine	383
Combined Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio vaccine	2,505

Please find the Vaccine Analysis Prints (VAPs) attached for details of the reported reactions for each of the vaccines, as well as the enclosed information sheet for guidelines on how to interpret the VAPs. Please note that the total number of reactions in the table will not be equal to the total number of unique reports as one report may contain more than one reaction.

Please note that, based on your request for the reports relating to the combined tetanus, diphtheria and polio vaccine, the numbers of reports in Table 1 and VAP are provided for the [Td/IPV vaccine](#) only. This is the 3-in-1 vaccine that provides protection against tetanus, diphtheria and polio. This does not include reports for the dTaP/IPV vaccines which are separate vaccines providing protection against Pertussis (whooping cough) as well as tetanus, diphtheria and polio. This also does not include data on the hexavalent DTaP/IPV/Hib/HepB vaccines which are also separate vaccines providing protection against haemophilus influenzae type b and hepatitis B as well as tetanus, diphtheria and polio. For further information please see the [current routine immunisation schedule in the UK](#).

When considering the attached spontaneous ADR data, it is important to be aware of the following points:

- A reported reaction does not necessarily mean it has been caused by the vaccine, only that the reporter had a suspicion it may have been. Each year, millions of doses of routine vaccinations are given in the UK alone, and when any vaccine is administered to large numbers of people, some recipients will inevitably experience illness following vaccination. The fact that symptoms occur after use of a vaccine or medicine, and are reported via the Yellow Card scheme, does not in itself mean that they are proven to have been caused by it. Underlying or concurrent illnesses may be responsible and such events can also be coincidental.
- It is also important to note that the number of reports received via the Yellow Card scheme does not directly equate to the number of people who suffer adverse reactions and therefore cannot be used to determine the incidence of a reaction. ADR reporting rates are influenced by the seriousness of ADRs, their ease of recognition, the extent of use of a particular vaccine, and may be stimulated by promotion and publicity about a vaccine. Reporting tends to be highest for newly introduced medicines during the first one to two years on the market and then falls over time. For these reasons the enclosed data should not be used as a basis for determining incidence of side effects.

Please be aware that the VAPs provided should not be used as a list of side effects to pertussis vaccines, nor should this data to be used to estimate the frequency of side effects or to compare the safety profile of different vaccines. All established undesirable effects for the available pertussis vaccines can be found in the Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC) for healthcare professionals and the Patient Information leaflet (PIL), both of which can be found on the [MHRA products website](#). Further information can also be located in the [Green Book](#).

I hope the information provided is helpful, but if you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of this response; and can be addressed to this email address.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

MHRA Central Freedom of Information Team  
Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

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### **Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act**

If you are not happy with this response you may request an internal review by e-mailing [foi.request@mhra.gov.uk](mailto:foi.request@mhra.gov.uk) or by writing to: MHRA Central Freedom of Information Team, 10 South, Colonnade, Canary Wharf, London, E14 4PU

Any request for an internal review must be received by us within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please note we are not obliged to provide a review if it is requested after more than 40 working days.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Website: [ICO Contact Information](#) or telephone 0303 123 1113.

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