

Types of vaccine

Live attenuated (LAV)

- Tuberculosis (BCG)
- Oral polio vaccine (OPV)
- Measles
- Rotavirus
- Yellow fever

Inactivated (killed antigen)

- Whole-cell pertussis (wP)
- Inactivated polio virus (IPV)

Subunit (purified antigen)

- Acellular pertussis (aP),
- *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib),
- Pneumococcal (PCV-7, PCV-10, PCV-13)
- Hepatitis B (HepB)

Toxoid (inactivated toxins)

- Tetanus toxoid (TT),
- Diphtheria toxoid

Live attenuated vaccines (LAV)

Live attenuated (LAV)

BACTERIA
Tuberculosis (BCG)

VIRUS
Oral polio vaccine (OPV)
Measles
Rotavirus
Yellow fever

Inactivated
(killed antigens)

Subunit
(purified antigens)

Toxoid
(inactivated toxins)

Derived from disease-causing pathogens (virus or bacteria) weakened under laboratory conditions.

The disease pathogens that are injected to the vaccine are "live" but are weakened. They cause no or only a very mild disease response.

Immunity vs. stability

Attenuated
(V)

Inactivated
(killed antigen)

Subunit
(purified antigen)

Toxoid
(inactivated toxin)

(BCG)

vaccine (OPV)

IMMUNE RESPONSE

- ✘ Live microorganisms provide continual antigenic stimulation, giving sufficient time for memory cell production.
- ✘ Attenuated pathogens are capable of replicating within host cells.

Excellent immune response

SAFETY AND STABILITY

- ✘ Attenuated pathogens can revert to original form and cause disease.
- ✘ Potential harm to individuals with compromised immune systems (eg. HIV).
- ✘ Sustained infection (BCG - local lymphadenitis).
- ✘ Contamination of tissue culture.
- ✘ Immunization errors (Reconstitution, cold chain).
- ✘ Usually not given in pregnancy.


Less safe compared to inactivated vaccines

Tuberculosis vaccine (BCG)

Live attenuated (LAV)

BACTERIA
Mycobacterium tuberculosis

VIRUS
Oral polio vaccine (OPV)

Vaccine	Rare, more severe adverse reactions	Frequency	Comment
Oral polio vaccine (OPV) 	Vaccine-associated paralytic poliomyelitis (VAPP) in vaccinees and their contacts	very rare at 0.0002 – 0.0004%	An essential component of the global polio campaign despite adverse reactions.

Measles vaccine

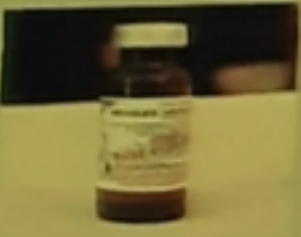
Live attenuated (LAV)

Measles virus

Edmonston-2 (1968)

VIRUS
Measles

Measles vaccine (100%)

Vaccine	Rare, more severe adverse reactions	Frequency	Comment
Measles 	Febrile seizures	very rare at 0.0002 – 0.0004%	Adverse reactions, with the exception of allergic anaphylactic reactions, are less likely to occur after receipt of the second dose of measles vaccine.
	Thrombocytopenic purpura	uncommon at 0.3%	
	Anaphylaxis	very rare at 0.001%	Allergic reactions to vaccine components including neomycin and the stabilizers gelatine or sorbitol, may follow vaccination.

Rotavirus vaccine

Live attenuated (LAV)

VIRUS Rotavirus

Vaccine

Rotavirus



Rare, more severe
adverse reactions

None reported to WHO

Frequency

-

Comment


To date, post-licensure surveillance does not indicate any increased risk of intussusception or other serious adverse reaction associated with the use of current rotavirus vaccines.

Yellow fever vaccine (YF)

Live attenuated (LAV)

BACTERIA
Tuberculosis (BCG)

VIRUS
Yellow fever

Vaccine	Rare, more severe adverse reactions	Frequency	Comment
Yellow fever (YF) 	Hypersensitivity reactions	very rare	Sensitivity to egg, which is commonly used to stabilize the vaccine, may explain at least some of these cases.
	Vaccine-associated neurotropic disease (encephalitis)	very rare	Infants seem more susceptible to vaccine-associated neurotropic disease than the YF-vaccinated population at large.
	Vaccine-associated viscerotropic disease	very rare in children at 0.00001%	The elderly seem more susceptible to reaction (very rare at 0.04 – 0.05) than the YF-vaccinated population at large.



Inactivated vaccines

Live attenuated
(LAV)

**Inactivated
(killed antigen)**

Subunit
(purified antigens)

Toxoid
(inactivated toxins)

BACTERIA
Whole-cell pertussis (wP)

VIRUS
Inactivated polio virus (IPV)

Derived from disease-causing pathogens (virus or bacteria) that have been killed through physical or chemical process.

Killed antigens cannot cause disease.

Considered safe and stable, with no risk of inducing the disease.

Immunity vs. stability

Live attenuated
(LAV)

Inactivated
(killed antigen)

Subunit
(purified antigen)

Toxoid
(inactivated toxins)

BACTERIA
Whole-cell pertussis (wP)

VIRUS
Inactivated polio virus (IPV)

IMMUNE RESPONSE

- May not always induce an immune response at first dose.
- Response may not be long-lived, requiring several doses of vaccine.

Less strong
immune response
compared to live vaccines

SAFETY AND STABILITY

- Have no live components, **no risk** of inducing the disease.
- Safer and more stable than LAVs.

Excellent stability profile

? QUESTION

What is the main difference between live and inactivated vaccines from

- a) Immunologic perspective
- b) Safety perspective?

What could be misconceptions to these two vaccine types?

Protein-based subunit vaccines

Live attenuated
(LAV)

Inactivated
(killed antigen)

**Subunit
(purified antigen)**

Toxoid
(inactivated toxins)

Protein-based

BACTERIA
Acellular pertussis (aP)

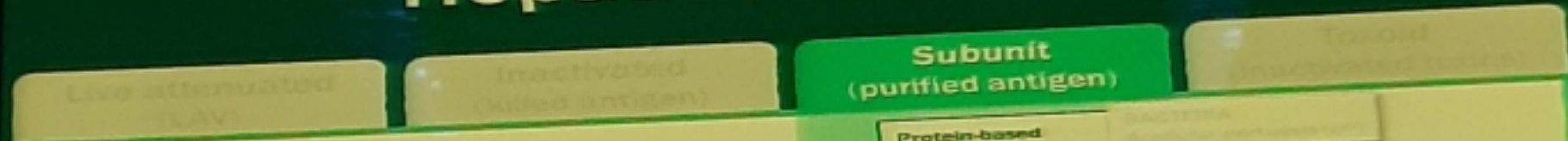
VIRUS
Hepatitis B

Present an antigen to the immune system without viral particles.

Use specific, isolated protein from the pathogen.

The isolated proteins, if denatured, may bind to different antibodies than the intended protein of the pathogen.

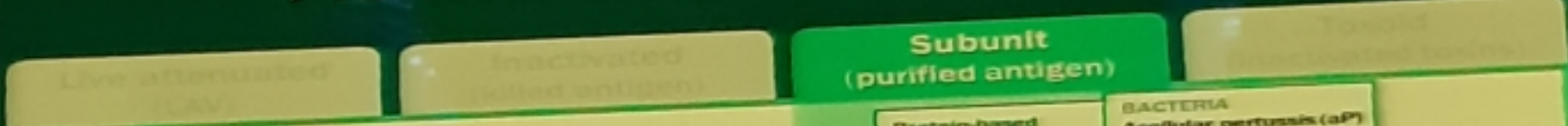
Hepatitis B (hepB)



- Composed of a protein produced by the hepatitis B virus (HBsAg).
- HBsAg no longer produced using infected human plasma, increasing safety and excluding risk from potential contamination.

Vaccine	Rare, more severe adverse reactions	Comment
Hepatitis B	Very rare	Reports of severe anaphylactic reactions are very rare.

Acellular pertussis (aP)



- Contain inactivated pertussis toxin (protein) and may contain one or more other bacterial components.
- Pertussis toxin is detoxified, either by chemical treatment or molecular genetic techniques.

Vaccine	Rare, more severe adverse reactions	Comment
Acellular pertussis (aP)	Same as tetanus and diphtheria toxoid vaccines.	Acellular pertussis-containing vaccines are less reactogenic in terms of mild-to-moderate reactions than wP-containing vaccines.

Conjugate vaccines

Live attenuated
(LAV)

Inactivated
(killed antigen)

**Subunit
(purified antigen)**

Toxoid
(inactivated toxin)

EXAMPLES

Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)

Pneumococcal vaccine

Meningococcal A vaccine

Conjugate

BACTERIA
Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib),
Pneumococcal
(PCV-7, PCV-10, PCV-13)

Binds polysaccharide capsule to carrier protein to induce long-term protective response.

Conjugate vaccines, however, can prevent common bacterial infections for which plain polysaccharide vaccines are either ineffective in those most at risk (infants) or provide only short-term protection (everyone else).

