

**Prescribing Information:** See Summary of Product Characteristics before prescribing

**Varilrix®** varicella-zoster vaccine.

**Composition:** Live attenuated varicella-zoster virus (Oka strain,  $10^{3.3}$  PFUs) as powder and solvent for reconstitution.

**Uses:** Active immunisation against varicella of healthy subjects from 9 months of age.

**Dosage and Administration:** Two doses of 0.5mls with interval of at least 6 weeks ( $\geq 3$  months in children aged 9-12 months). For subcutaneous use only, preferably into the deltoid region or anterolateral region of thigh. Use different injection site if administering another live vaccine concomitantly.

**Side Effects:** See SPC for full details. Common and very common: Injection site reaction including pain, redness, swelling, rash, fever.

Serious: Encephalitis, cerebrovascular accident, cerebellitis, convulsions, cerebellar ataxia, thrombocytopenia, anaphylaxis, Henoch Schonlein Purpura, Kawasaki syndrome.

**Contraindications:** Hypersensitivity to neomycin, or any excipients, or to any varicella vaccine; pregnancy and breast-feeding; immunodeficiency states with total lymphocyte count under  $1200/\text{mm}^3$ , immunocompromised subjects with evidence of lack of cellular immune competence, or severe humoral or cellular

(primary or acquired) immunodeficiency.

Acute, severe febrile illness. **Precautions:**

Avoid pregnancy for one month after vaccination. Vaccinees (especially if rash develops) may transmit vaccine viral strain to contacts. Consider risk:benefit for some immunocompromised patients.

Delay vaccination of those receiving immunoglobulins or blood transfusion for at least 3 months.

Risk of Reye's syndrome with co-administration of aspirin or systemic salicylates to children under 16.

If not administered concomitantly, leave an interval of at least 1 month before or after a measles containing vaccine.

**Legal Category:** POM **MA number:** Vaccine: PL 10592/0121 Diluent: PL 10592/0021 **NHS**

**Cost:** £27.31 **MA Holder:** SmithKline Beecham Ltd, 980 Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 9GS, UK.

**Further information is available from:** **Customer Contact Centre, GlaxoSmithKline, Stockley Park West, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB11 1BT;**

**[customercontactuk@gsk.com](mailto:customercontactuk@gsk.com),**

**Freephone 0800 221 441**

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**Adverse events should be reported. Reporting forms and information can be found at [www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard](http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard), or search for MHRA yellow card in the Google Play or Apple App store. Adverse events should also be reported to GlaxoSmithKline on 0800 221 441.**