

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1 What are Sphereon® vaccines?

Sphereon® vaccines are live, freeze-dried poultry vaccines packed in light weight aluminium cups instead of in traditional glass vials.

### 2 What do Sphereon® vaccines look like and how are they freeze dried?

The freeze drying technology used in Sphereon® vaccines freezes live viral vaccines into small spheres instead of a vaccine cake.

### 3 Is the formulation the same as that in the glass vials vaccine?

Sphereon® vaccines contain exactly the same formulation as the vaccines in the glass vials.

### 4 How can I apply Sphereon® vaccines?

**Spray-Drinking water vaccination:** Application of the Sphereon® vaccines is very simple:

- Open the cup and pour the vaccine spheres into the water. There is no need to open the vaccine cups under water.
- After adding the vaccine to the water, stir the solution. Once the vaccine solution is prepared add the solution into the drinking water or spray equipment.

**Eye drop/intra nasal vaccination:**

- Open the cup and pour the vaccine via the funnel into the Ocular/Nasal diluent.
- Shake the diluent gently to dissolve the vaccine.
- Once dissolved add the dropper to the diluent and start vaccinating.

### 5 Do I need to open the Sphereon® vaccines under water?

Opening under water is not necessary, preventing contact between the vaccine solution and the vaccinator. The spheres have a higher solubility compared to a vaccine cake. After opening, pour the vaccine spheres in to the water or ocularnasal diluent immediately.

### 6 Are the Sphereon® vaccines vacuum sealed?

Sphereon® vaccines are not vacuum sealed.

### 7 Can I split the dose with Sphereon® vaccines?

No, for optimum protection one full dose per bird must be used.

### 8 Why are there different numbers of vaccine spheres per product in the cup?

As with Glass vials there can be a difference in the size of the vaccine cake. This has to do with the yields achieved per product. In the same way the Sphereon® cups may contain different numbers of vaccine spheres.

### 9 Why are there different numbers of vaccine spheres per batch?

Exactly the correct number of vaccine spheres is added to each cup to provide optimum protection. Therefore the number of vaccine spheres can vary from production batch to production batch.

### 10 Do I need to use the Sphereon® vaccine immediately after opening?

Use the Sphereon® vaccines immediately after opening in order to achieve the best results.

### 11 What will happen if I leave the packaging open before using?

The vaccine spheres will absorb moisture from the environment and will not dissolve anymore. If the cups are kept open for a long time the vaccine spheres will shrink.



Vaccine spheres just after opening.



Vaccine spheres shrink if they are opened before they are required.

## 12 How can I dispose of the empty cups after using the vaccine?

Place cups in a chlorine solution first for disinfection. After disinfection stack the cups together and offer them for aluminium recycling.



## 13 Which presentations are available?

Sphereon® vaccines are available in 1000, 5000 and 10,000 dose cups.

## 14 What do I need to do when the Sphereon® cups are damaged?

If the seal of the Sphereon® cups is opened or the cups are pierced, contact your local MSD Animal Health representative. Do not use the vaccine.

## 15 Can I add dye to the vaccine?

The addition of a dye or stabiliser (such as Vac safe) to the vaccine solution is possible when drinking water vaccination is carried out or in spray vaccination if required.

## 16 How can I use the Sphereon® vaccines for eye drop application?

- Open the cup and pour the vaccine via the funnel into the Ocular/Nasal diluent.
- Shake the diluent gently to dissolve the vaccine.
- Once dissolved add the dropper to the diluent and start vaccinating.



Empty the Sphereon® cup via the funnel into the diluent.



Shake the vaccine solution.

## 17 How do I need to store the Sphereon® vaccines?

Store the vaccine in the refrigerator with a temperature of 2-8°C.



## 18 Why is there colour variation of the vaccine spheres of the different products?

The colour variation among the different products is the same as in the vaccine cakes in glass vials and is due to the nature of the vaccine virus.

## 19 If I dropped the vaccine spheres on the floor, can I still use them?

If the vaccine spheres are dropped on the floor, do not use them as they may become contaminated with microorganisms present in the environment.

## 20 What should I do when someone ingests the vaccine spheres?

Poultry vaccines are not harmful to human health. Should accidental ingestion occur seek medical assistance and show the insert leaflet found in the vaccine box to the medical advisor.

## 21 Can I mix different products when using Sphereon® vaccines?

Do not mix vaccines other than those specifically mentioned on the label.

**For more information contact your local MSD Animal Health representative**

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