

## Fowl Cholera (*Pasteurella multocida*)

### Purpose of Vaccination

- To prevent mortality, morbidity and egg production losses in commercial layers and breeder hens.
- To reduce the need for antibiotic medication to treat acute and chronic Fowl Cholera.

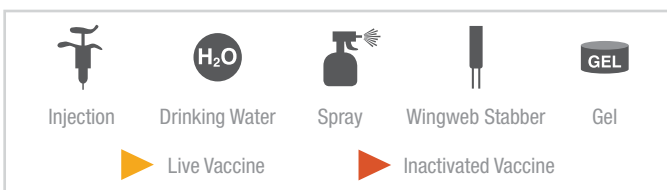
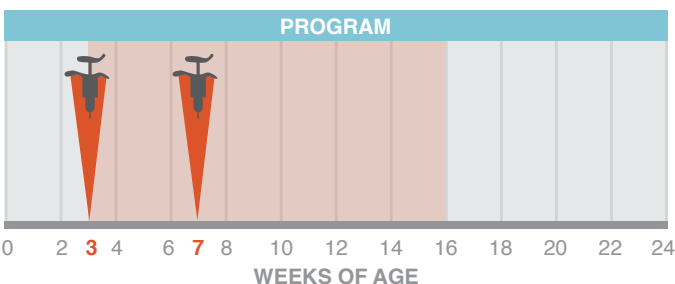
### Disease

Fowl Cholera (FC) is a common bacterial disease of chickens caused by *Pasteurella multocida*. Birds become susceptible from about 8 weeks of age. The *Pasteurella multocida* bacterium is carried by many species of animals and birds including: rodents, rabbits, cats, pigs and wild birds. The bacterium may also be carried on contaminated clothing and equipment. Once introduced into a flock it spreads from chicken to chicken. The *Pasteurella multocida* bacterium causes acute systemic infection and fever. The acute disease is usually rapidly fatal, but surviving birds may develop chronic localised infections.

Acute Fowl Cholera typically occurs in younger to middle aged birds. Often the first sign of disease is increased mortalities. Observant stockmen may notice fever of short duration followed rapidly by death. The clinical signs of fever include, loss of appetite, ruffled feathers, nasal discharge, increased rate of breathing, and shortly before death cyanosis (blue discolouration) of the comb and wattles. The incidence of morbidity and mortality ranges from low to high. Surviving birds may develop chronic abscesses.

Chronic Pasteurellosis is characterised by clinical signs due to abscesses in various organs e.g. wattles, sinuses, joints, lungs and the middle ear.

Pasteurellosis in older birds is characterised by ongoing low incidence of fever and death



### Vaccination program

Two vaccinations with bacterins of inactivated *Pasteurella multocida* in oil emulsion.

### Vaccine administration

Two vaccinations with inactivated *Pasteurella multocida* bacterin in oil emulsion - subcutaneous injection (from 3 weeks of age with an interval of 4 weeks between each injection).

### Precautions

Swelling may occur at the site of vaccination. Birds may develop a stiff neck if the vaccine is placed in the muscles of the neck. Swelling of the head may occur if the vaccine is placed too close to the head.

Infection can break through vaccine induced immunity and cause disease if there is overwhelming infection pressure e.g. unsanitary conditions, failure to remove dead birds or wildlife vectors are present.

Turkeys may require repeated revaccination at 2 to 3 month intervals.

### Further Information

#### Product Information Sheet

- Izovac FC
- Poulvac® Pabac® IV

#### Administration Information Sheet

- Subcutaneous injection

