# RIS-MA® Marek's Disease Vaccine

(Serotypes 1 & 3, Live Virus)

For vaccination of healthy chickens 1 day of age by subcutaneous injection or 18 day embryonated eggs by the *in ovo* route to aid in the prevention of very virulent Marek's disease.

# **ADVANTAGES:**\*

- Low passage Rispens strain vaccine for maximum efficacy against virulent MD challenge
- Rispens strains combined with HVT in 1 ampule
- Provides faster and better protection than high passaged CVI-988 and CVI-988 derivative + HVT combinations



**Ris-Ma**<sup>®</sup> is a frozen vaccine of tissue culture origin that contains the original CVI-988 strain of chicken herpes virus and the FC-126 strain of turkey herpes virus. The CVI-988 strain was specially selected for its immunogenicity and has been used globally with excellent results.

2,000 dose ampules

\*Data on file, Merck Animal Health







Marek's Disease Vaccine

(Serotypes 1 & 3, Live Virus)

For Animal Use Only.

# **Description**

Ris-Ma® is a frozen, cell-associated, live virus vaccine that contains the low passage CVI 988 strain of chicken herpesvirus and the FC-126 strain of turkey herpesvirus. Ris-Ma is packaged in 2,000 dose glass ampules and supplied with diluent packaged in a separate container. The vaccine ampules are inserted in metal canes, stored and shipped in a liquid nitrogen container.

#### **Indications for Use**

Ris-Ma is recommended for vaccination of healthy 1 day old chickens by subcutaneous injection or 18 day old chicken embryos by the *in ovo* route to aid in the prevention of very virulent Marek's disease.

# IMPORTANT: STORAGE CONDITIONS

AMPULES - Store in liquid nitrogen container.

DILUENT - Do not freeze.

CONTAINER - Store liquid nitrogen container securely in upright position in a dry, well-ventilated area and away from incubator intakes and chicken boxes.

# **Safety Precautions**

Liquid nitrogen container and vaccine should be handled only by properly trained personnel who are thoroughly conversant with the Union Carbide publication and instruction booklet regarding the use of, precautions for, and safe practices for liquefied atmospheric gases (particularly liquid nitrogen). When removing ampule cane, handling frozen ampules, or adding liquid nitrogen, wear long sleeves, a plastic face shield and gloves to protect the skin from contact with the liquid nitrogen.

All storage and handling of the liquid nitrogen container must be in a dry, ventilated area. Do not inhale liquid nitrogen vapors. If drowsiness occurs, get fresh air quickly; then ventilate entire area. If breathing difficulty occurs, apply artificial respiration. If any of these difficulties persist or there is a loss of consciousness, summon a physician immediately. Care should be exercised to prevent contaminating your hands, eyes and clothing with the vaccine.

# **Preparation of Vaccine**

CAUTION: READ ABOVE WARNING ADVICE ON HANDLING VACCINE AMPULE. STERILIZE VACCINATING EQUIPMENT BY BOILING IN WATER

FOR 30 MINUTES OR BY AUTOCLAVING (20 MINUTES AT 250°F OR 121°C). DO NOT USE CHEMICAL DISINFECTANTS.

- 1. Use 2,000 doses of vaccine with 400 ml sterile diluent per 2,000 chickens when administering vaccine by the subcutaneous route. Use 2,000 doses of vaccine with 200 ml sterile diluent per 2,000 chicken embryos to administer 1 (0.10 ml) dose per chicken embryo. Use 2,000 doses of vaccine with 100 ml sterile diluent per 2,000 chicken embryos to administer 1 (0.05 ml) dose per chicken embryo.
- Before withdrawing vaccine from liquid nitrogen canister, protect hands with gloves, wear long sleeves and use a face mask or goggles. It is possible an accident could occur with either the liquid nitrogen or the ampules of vaccine. When removing an ampule from the cane, hold palm of gloved hand away from body and face.
- 3. When withdrawing a cane of ampules from canister in liquid nitrogen container, expose only the ampule to be used immediately. We recommend handling only 1 ampule at a time. After removing the ampule from the cane, the remaining ampules should be replaced immediately in the canister of the liquid nitrogen container.

- 4. The contents of the ampule are thawed rapidly by immersing in water at room temperature. Shake ampule to disperse contents. Then break ampule at its neck and immediately proceed as below. Dilute the vaccine with diluent for administration. 2,000 doses of vaccine are added for each 100, 200, or 400 ml of diluent. CAUTION: ampules have been known to explode on sudden temperature changes. Do not thaw in hot or ice cold water.
- 5. Draw contents of ampule into a sterile 10 ml syringe, mounted with an 18-gauge needle.
- Dilute immediately by filling the syringe slowly with a portion of the diluent.
   IMPORTANT: THE DILUENT SHOULD BE AT ROOM TEMPERATURE (60°- 80°F or 16°- 27°C) AT TIME OF MIXING.
- 7. The contents of the filled syringe are then added to remaining diluent. It is important that this be done slowly. Slowly empty the syringe, allowing the vaccine to run down the side of the diluent container. Gently agitate the container as the vaccine is being mixed. Withdraw a portion of the diluent with the syringe to flush ampule. Remove the remaining diluent from the ampule and inject gently into the diluent container. Remove the syringe.
- 8. Fill the previously sterilized automatic syringe or egg inoculation machine according to the manufacturer's recommendations.
- 9. The vaccine is now ready for use.

# **Method of Vaccination**

#### SUBCUTANEOUS ADMINISTRATION

- 1. Hold the chicken by the back of the neck just below the head. The loose skin in the area is raised by gently pinching with the thumb and forefinger. Insert the needle beneath the skin in a downward direction away from the head. Inject 0.2 ml per chicken.
- 2. Avoid hitting the muscles and bones in the neck.
- 3. Entire contents of container must be used within 1 hour after mixing or be discarded according to caution statement no. 11.
- 4. After reconstitution, the vaccine should be kept cool and gently agitated frequently.

# IN OVO ADMINISTRATION

- 1. Inoculate each 18 day old chicken embryo with a full dose (0.05 ml or 0.10 ml).
- 2. Entire contents of container must be used within 1 hour after mixing or be discarded according to caution statement no. 11.
- 3. After reconstitution, the vaccine should be kept cool and gently agitated frequently.

# **Notice**

This product is not hazardous when used according to directions supplied. A safety data sheet (SDS) is available upon request. This and any other consumer information can be obtained by calling Merck animal Health Customer Service at 1-800-211-3573.

#### Caution

It is recommended that good management practices be followed to reduce exposure to Marek's disease for at least 3 weeks following vaccination.

- Do not mix any substance not approved by Merck animal Health with this vaccine.
- 2. Store vaccine in liquid nitrogen at a temperature below -238°F or -150°C.
- 3. Gloves and visor should be worn when handling liquid nitrogen.
- 4. ONCE THAWED, THE PRODUCT SHOULD NOT BE REFROZEN.
- 5. Do not dilute or otherwise stretch the dosage of this vaccine.
- 6. Once mixed with diluent, the vaccine should be gently agitated frequently.
- 7. Once mixed with diluent, the vaccine should be used within 1 hour.
- 8. Only healthy chickens or chicken embryos should be vaccinated.
- 9. Do not vaccinate within 21 days before slaughter.

  10. This vaccine contains gentamicin as a preservative.
- 11. BURN THIS CONTAINER AND ALL UNUSED CONTENTS.

#### Records

Keep a record of vaccine, quantity, serial number, expiration date, and place of purchase; the date and time of vaccination; the number, age, breed, and locations of chickens; names of operators performing the vaccination and any observed reactions.

# STORE VACCINE IN LIQUID NITROGEN.

Contact our sales or technical services representatives to help design a custom vaccination program.

