

VACCINE INFORMATION FOR SCHOOL CLINICS

MENINGOCOCCAL ACYW-135 VACCINE (MENACTRA or MENVEO)

- This vaccine helps to protect against meningococcal disease due to strains (serogroups) A, C, Y and W-135
- The meningococcal bacteria spreads by direct contact with oral secretions such as sharing food, drinks, lipstick, toothbrushes, water bottles, musical instruments and kissing
- The bacteria lives in the back of the nose and throat
- The meningococcal bacteria can cause meningitis (a serious illness that causes swelling in the lining of the brain and spinal cord) or meningococemia (an infection in the blood stream)
- Symptoms of meningococcal disease can be severe and sudden and can include fever, severe headache, stiff neck, nausea, vomiting and sometimes a red pin-point rash with bruising
- This illness can cause death, loss of hearing, neurologic disabilities and limb amputation
- Students are eligible in Grade 7 to receive this one-dose vaccine for free.

**** Receiving a dose of Menactra or Menveo vaccine is required to attend school in Ontario according to the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* (unless a valid legal exemption has been filed with public health)**

***** A meningococcal-C immunization (e.g., Menjugate or Neis-Vac-C) is a different vaccine which your student may have had as a baby. If your student had one or more meningococcal-C vaccines in the past, the Menactra vaccine is still required now.**

HEPATITIS B VACCINE (RECOMBIVAX HB or ENGERIX B VACCINE)

- This vaccine helps to protect against Hepatitis B, which is a virus that affects the liver
- Many people who have had the virus do not have any symptoms but can still spread it
- The virus spreads from an infected person's blood and body fluids through:
 - Unprotected sex
 - Sharing used needles
 - Sharing personal items (such as razors, nail clippers, toothbrushes etc.)
 - Contact with blood during procedures or accidents
 - Body/ear piercing or tattooing with infected equipment
 - Receiving medical or dental care in a developing country
 - An infected mother can pass the infection to her baby during birth
- Symptoms can include: weakness, fatigue, headache, vomiting, fever, stomach pain and jaundice (a yellowish colour of the skin and eyes)
- This infection can last a long time and cause liver damage, cirrhosis, liver cancer or death

HPV (HUMAN PAPILLOMA VIRUS) GARDASIL 9 VACCINE

- HPV is a family of viruses with over 100 types, this vaccine protects against nine of the HPV types
- Almost all cervical cancers are caused by an HPV infection
- These viruses can also cause genital warts, cervical changes and other types of cancer (e.g. vulvar, vaginal, anal, penile and possibly mouth and throat)
- It is spread by skin-to-skin contact, you do not have to have intercourse to spread it
- It can be spread by vaginal, oral or anal sex
- Condoms may not cover all skin areas that have the virus
- A person can spread HPV even when they don't have any signs or symptoms
- Giving the vaccine prior to the onset of any sexual activity will help to prevent against future HPV contact
- Abstinence from both sexual activity and close skin-to-skin contact can also decrease the risk of HPV infection

DOSING OF VACCINES

- **Meningococcal ACYW-135 vaccine (Menactra or Menveo)** – one dose at grade seven age
- **Hepatitis B vaccine (Recombivax HB or Engerix B)** – 11-15 year olds receive two doses, 4-6 months apart
- **HPV vaccine (Gardasil 9)** – students starting this vaccine before 15 years old receive two doses, 6 months apart

Immunization schedule for the school year:

	Meningococcal ACYW-135	Hepatitis B	HPV
Fall	One dose	Dose #1	Dose #1
Spring		Dose #2	Dose #2

Three (3) vaccines could be given on the same day at school clinics depending on which vaccines the parent/guardian choose. Menactra (or Menveo) is the only one that is mandatory for school attendance in Ontario (according to the *Immunization of School Pupils Act*) unless a valid legal exemption has been filed with public health.

WHO SHOULD NOT GET THESE VACCINES

- Anyone with a high fever or serious infection the day of the clinic (they can get it once feeling better, at a public health clinic)
- Anyone who is immunocompromised or has a bleeding disorder should let the nurse know before receiving the vaccine
- Anyone who has had an allergic reaction to a previous vaccine, or is allergic to components of the vaccine (see chart below)
- If a female is pregnant she should consult with her health care provider before receiving any vaccines
- Anyone who has had Guillain Barré Syndrome should consult with their health care provider before receiving any vaccines

Vaccine	Components
Meningococcal ACYW-135	Menactra: diphtheria toxoid protein, sodium chloride, sodium phosphate Menveo: corynebacterium diphtheria, potassium phosphate, sucrose, sodium chloride, sodium dihydrogen phosphate monohydrate, di-sodium hydrogen phosphate bihydrate
Hepatitis B	yeast, aluminum, latex, formaldehyde or 2-phenoxyethanol
HPV	yeast, aluminum, polysorbate 80, L-histidine or sodium borate

WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER VACCINATION

- The most common side effects are redness, tenderness or swelling where the shot was given. These are usually mild and go away on their own within a couple of days
- Mild reaction such as tiredness, fever, loss of appetite or headache may last a day or two
- Occasionally, people faint after medical procedures such as receiving a vaccine. Working to decrease anxiety and eating something prior to immunization can help to decrease this.
- Allergic reaction such as hives, wheezing or swelling of the face and mouth are rare. If these symptoms occur, **seek medical attention immediately**, and then notify public health
- Call your health care provider if any symptoms last more than a few days, and then notify public health

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact our Immunization Program at 613-966-5500 x313. Toll Free 1-800-267-2803. TTY 711.

We are committed to providing accessible publications, programs and services to all. For assistance please call 613-966-5500; TTY 711, or email accessibility@hpeph.ca. For more information, please visit www.hpepublichealth.ca.