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Date: November 13, 2015

To: Local Health Departments  
Tribal Health Clinics  
Vaccines for Children Providers

From: Jeffrey P. Davis, MD, Chief Medical Officer and State Epidemiologist  
for Communicable Diseases

Re: Introduction of Serogroup B Meningococcal Vaccine

On June 12, 2015 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) published recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) for the use of serogroup B meningococcal vaccines among persons aged  $\geq 10$  years at increased risk for serogroup B meningococcal disease. Two serogroup B meningococcal (MenB) vaccines have been licensed; one licensed for use as a three-dose series (MenB-FHbp [Trumenba, Wyeth Pharmaceuticals, Inc.]) and the other licensed for use as a two-dose series (MenB-4C [Bexsero, Novartis Vaccines]). Both vaccines were approved for use among persons aged 10 through 25 years. The full recommendations are available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6422a3.htm>.

On October 23, 2015 the CDC published recommendations of the ACIP for use of MenB vaccines among adolescents and young adults. The full recommendations are available at: [http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6441a3.htm?s\\_cid=mm6441a3\\_w](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6441a3.htm?s_cid=mm6441a3_w)

The ACIP recommends MenB vaccination for persons aged  $\geq 10$  years who are at increased risk for meningococcal disease including:

- Persons with persistent complement component deficiencies including inherited or chronic deficiencies in C3, C5-9, properdin, factor D, factor H, or who are taking eculizumab (Soliris)
- Persons with anatomic or functional asplenia, including sickle cell disease
- Microbiologists routinely exposed to isolates of *Neisseria meningitidis*
- Persons identified as at increased risk because of an outbreak of serogroup B meningococcal disease.

Persons aged 16 through 18 years without a high risk condition may also be vaccinated to provide short-term protection against invasive disease caused by most strains of serogroup B *Neisseria meningitidis*. The ACIP recommendations state that persons aged 16 through 23 years without a high risk condition may be vaccinated; however, the Wisconsin Immunization Program will only be providing state-supplied MenB vaccine to children aged 16 through 18 years without a high risk condition, which is also the preferred age for MenB vaccination.

Sufficient data are not available for using MenB vaccines interchangeably to complete the vaccine series, therefore it is important to document the MenB vaccine tradename to ensure the validity of doses administered.

Note that the recommendations for the use of quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine (protects against serogroups A, C, W, and Y) are different from the recommendations for use of MenB vaccine.

Effective November 1, 2015, MenB vaccine will be available to order through the Wisconsin Immunization Program. Trumenba is available in 10-dose pre-filled syringe packages and Bexsero is available in 1-dose pre-filled syringe packages.

If you have questions or need additional assistance, please contact Stephanie Borchardt at 608-266-9923 or [Stephanie.Borchardt@wi.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Borchardt@wi.gov).