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Dear Immunization Providers,

During recent weeks, three University of Wisconsin-Madison students were hospitalized with meningococcal disease. All three patients were infected with *Neisseria meningitidis* serogroup B. In response to the outbreak, the University Health Services partnered with state and local public health and county officials to offer meningitis B vaccine to all UW-Madison undergraduate students. Approximately 20,000 students elected to receive a dose of the meningococcal B vaccine, Bexsero®, which is administered as a two-dose vaccine series; dose 2 is administered 1-2 months after dose 1, but can be administered as soon as 28 days following dose 1.

Vaccination clinics at UW Madison were held from October 20 through November 2. Accordingly, for the students who received their first dose of Bexsero®, their second doses of Bexsero® will be due approximately during late November/early December. **Because many students will be home during the Thanksgiving holiday and/or winter break, the Wisconsin Immunization Program is asking immunization providers to be prepared for the potential influx of patients needing the second dose of Bexsero®.**

Please see the information below to ensure proper vaccination of your patients.

**Vaccine:**

There are two FDA-licensed serogroup B meningococcal vaccines (MenB vaccines) available, Bexsero® (GSK) and Trumenba® (Pfizer). The vaccines are approved for and may be administered at any time to adolescents and young adults ages 16 through 25 years to provide short-term protection against meningococcal disease caused by most serogroup B strains. Please see the CDC website for additional information: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/vacc-specific/mening.html>

**Schedule:**

Bexsero® is administered as a two-dose series. Dose 2 is administered one to two months following the first dose. Trumenba® is administered as a three-dose series. Dose 2 is administered at least 2 months after the first dose, and dose 3 is administered at least 6 months after the first dose.

Please note that the two MenB vaccines are **not** interchangeable; the same vaccine product must be used to complete the series.

- Bexsero® was administered to students at the UW-Madison clinics to initiate the series; Bexsero® must be administered for the second dose.

- Two doses of Bexsero® are recommended at least 28 days apart for full protection.
- There is no need to restart the series because of longer intervals between doses one and two.
- Students who initiated the vaccine series with Bexsero® prior to the UW-Madison clinics and were eligible to receive dose number two of the series were vaccinated with Bexsero®.
- Students who initiated the vaccine series with Trumenba® prior to the UW-Madison clinics, and were eligible to receive dose number two or three of the series, were vaccinated with Trumenba®.
- You may look up a patient’s record in the [Wisconsin Immunization Registry \(WIR\)](#) to confirm if a patient received a vaccination at the UW-Madison clinics.
- Meningococcal B vaccines are available through the Vaccines For Children (VFC) program for eligible students who have not aged out of the program (e.g., less than 19 years of age).

**Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR):**

WIR has the capability to forecast the meningococcal B series once the first dose is entered into the system (called “invoke on use”) and it will indicate which vaccine should be used. The UW Health Services entered all doses administered into WIR. Therefore, we encourage you to check the WIR to ensure you administer a valid dose to complete the series (e.g. correct brand and proper timing)

Meningococcal B vaccine (MenB) will be indicated as “Meningo B”

Meningococcal Conjugate (MCV4, or MenACWY) will be indicated as “Meningo”

Current Age: 12 years, 5 months, 29 days

Vaccines Recommended by Selected Tracking Schedule							Authorize Overrides	Add Selected	
Select	Vaccine Group	Vaccine	Earliest Date	Recommended Date	Overdue Date	Latest Date			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">HepA</a>		01/27/2005	01/27/2005	01/27/2006				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">HepB</a>		08/19/2016	08/19/2016	09/22/2016				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">HPV</a>		01/27/2013	01/27/2015	01/27/2030	01/26/2031			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Influenza</a>		08/01/2017	08/01/2017	10/22/2017				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Meningo</a>		01/27/2006	01/27/2015	01/27/2023	01/26/2026			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Meningo B</a>	Meningococcal B, Trumenba	07/21/2016	07/21/2016	08/18/2016				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">MMR</a>		08/08/2016	08/08/2016	09/11/2016				
	<a href="#">Pertussis/Tdap</a>	Complete							
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Polio</a>		08/19/2016	08/19/2016	10/22/2016				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Td</a>	Td	08/19/2016	08/19/2016	09/22/2016				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Varicella</a>		08/08/2016	08/08/2016	08/08/2016	01/26/2017			

Please note: Meningococcal B vaccination **does not** replace the need for vaccination with Meningococcal ACWY Vaccines. Providers should still follow ACIP recommendations for MenACWY and MPSV4 vaccines.

**Additional Resources:**

- [Wisconsin Immunization Program website](#)
- [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices-Men B Recommendation](#)
- [Immunization Action Coalition-Provider and Patient Resources](#)

If you have any questions regarding these recommendations, please call the Wisconsin Immunization Program at (608) 267-9959.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey P. Davis, M.D.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jeffrey P. Davis, M.D.  
Chief Medical Officer  
State Epidemiologist for Communicable Diseases