

October 6, 2015

Dear Parents:

The providers at Madison Irving pediatrics are happy to offer your teenager a new vaccine against meningitis. Our practice, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends all children receive 2 doses of the Meningococcal vaccine MCV4 (Menveo) at 11 and 16 old to protect against 4 types of meningitis infection. However menveo does not protect against serotype B.

The meningitis vaccine B is now approved by the FDA but not considered required. Since the meningitis and meningococcal disease is so dangerous we have decided to offer this addition vaccine as an option.

MIP encourages you to consider the Meningitis B vaccination (Bexsero or Trumenba) for additional protection against meningococcal serotype B which has caused some outbreaks in the US. MIP is offering Bexsero to our young adults and high risk patients for more complete protection against meningococcal infection.

The following groups are at higher risk of getting meningococcal infections, the CDC and AAP have recommended vaccination against meningococcal serotype B for these people young adults that attending college are at intermedial risk may be offered the vaccine.

Together these two vaccines provide immunization for all of the known serotypes of Meningitis.

Meningitis and High Risk Conditions:

- College Freshmen living in dorms
- Lab personnel who are routinely exposed to the bacteria
- US Military
- Anyone traveling to a part of the world where meningitis disease is common, such as parts of Africa
- Anyone with damaged spleen or a spleen has been removed
- Immune system disorder
- Anyone who might have been exposed during the outbreak.

The clinicians at Madison Irving Pediatrics urge you to consider immunizing your teen with Bexsero.

The complete vaccine information sheet is attached. It would require two doses one month apart.

Current college students are urged to get immunized during Thanksgiving break and then again at the Christmas break. MIP is scheduling vaccination clinics over to vaccinate our college-aged patients.

Cost of the vaccine is \$200 with administration fee of \$30. **Most, but not all, insurance companies are covering this important vaccine. If you sign the attached form our office will determine if your child's insurance plan covers the payment. You may also contact your insurance company directly if you have questions. In cases of incomplete coverage MIP would require payment prior to vaccination with Bexsero.**

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask your doctor, nurse practitioner or our nursing staff.

Drs. HIngre, Nguyen, Madden and Nurse Practitioners Bo Rinn and Terri Morse