**Meningococcal Meningitis Disease and Vaccination Options**

The **Immunization Task Force** – Metro Omaha (ITF) is a non-profit coalition dedicated to educating the public & healthcare providers about immunizations. The information in this toolkit seeks to inform and suggest actions that might be taken by post-secondary educational institutions who offer on-campus housing to their students – to educate their incoming students and be in legal compliance with LB 513.

**Suggested Actions:**

1. Provide information to each newly enrolled student who will reside in on-campus housing, to address the following:
2. Information on the risks associated with meningococcal disease (Men A/C/W/Y and Men B).
3. Information on the availability and effectiveness of vaccines available to optimize prevention of these diseases, including MCV-4 and Men-B vaccines.
4. Recommend that before moving into dormitory housing each student:
5. Obtain MCV-4 vaccination per CDC guidelines, if they have not yet been vaccinated
6. Conduct a timely discussion with their vaccine provider to obtain clinical guidance on the advisability of obtaining Men-B vaccination, and if so advised, to obtain Men-B vaccination

**NOTE**: Optimally, all recommended meningitis vaccinations are best completed at least 2 weeks prior to the student’s move-in date, but a delay is not a valid reason to omit immunization.

1. Provide information on available resources to assist qualified persons with the cost of vaccination.
1) Contact their local health department to determine if they are eligible for free vaccination
 (prior to 19 years of age in Nebraska).
2) Contact their health insurance company to determine plan coverage for these vaccinations.
3) Use a Patient Assistance Program (PAP) resource to learn if eligible and how to access free vaccinations:
	1. [www.NeedyMeds.org](http://www.NeedyMeds.org) or [www.RxOutreach.org](http://www.RxOutreach.org) Resources that provide free assistance to learn about eligibility for participating manufacturers’ Patient Assistance Programs.
	2. Contact manufacturers directly:
	- **Meningitis conjugate A/C/W/Y vaccines (MCV-4)**:
	 Menveo® (Novartis Vaccines) or Menactra® (Sanofi Pasteur Inc)
	- **Meningococcal B vaccines (Men-B)**:
	 Trumenba® (Wyeth Pharmaceuticals/Pfizer Inc) or Bexsero® (Novartis Vaccines)

**NOTE:** ***All proprietary names are provided as examples only, with no recommendation intended for specific resources or products.***