

## Recommended College/University Actions – Immunization Task Force (ITF)

### 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:

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

- B. 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:
    - a. [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.
    - b. 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.*