



Department of Health

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.
Commissioner

SALLY DRESLIN, M.S., R.N.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

To: Health Care Providers
From: New York State Department of Health, Bureau of Immunization
Date: November 24, 2015

**INFORMATIONAL MESSAGE:
MENINGOCOCCAL VACCINE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2016**

The purpose of this informational message is to inform health care providers of new meningococcal vaccine school requirements that will take effect on September 1, 2016.

On October 26, 2015, Governor Cuomo signed into law Chapter 401 of the laws of 2015 which amended New York State (NYS) Public Health Law (PHL) section 2164 to require children entering or attending seventh and twelfth grades on or after September 1, 2016 to receive an adequate dose or doses of vaccine against meningococcal disease as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). In the coming year, the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) will work with the New York State Education Department and other partners to draft regulations and establish updated immunization requirements charts and other materials to help implement this new requirement.

In preparation for the September 1, 2016 meningococcal vaccine school requirement, the NYSDOH urges healthcare providers to ensure that all adolescent patients are fully vaccinated against meningococcal disease according to the following ACIP recommendations:

- A single dose of vaccine against meningococcal serogroups A, C, W-135, and Y (MenACWY vaccine; brand names Menactra® or Menveo®) should be administered to all adolescents at age 11 or 12 years.
- A booster dose of MenACWY vaccine should be administered at age 16 years.
 - The booster dose is not necessary for adolescents who receive the first dose of MenACWY vaccine at 16 years of age or older.
 - The minimum interval between doses of MenACWY vaccine is 8 weeks.
- A serogroup B meningococcal vaccine series (MenB vaccine) may be administered to adolescents and young adults 16 through 23 years of age, at the discretion of the individual clinician. The preferred age for MenB vaccination is 16 through 18 years of age.

For additional information and resources, please see the websites below:

New York State School Immunization Requirements for School Entrance/Attendance:
<http://www.health.ny.gov/publications/2370.pdf>

NYSDOH Childhood and Adolescent Immunizations web page:

http://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization/childhood_and_adolescent.htm

ACIP Meningococcal Vaccine Recommendations:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/vacc-specific/mening.html>

Immunization Action Coalition Give2MCV4 Campaign: <http://www.give2mcv4.org/>