



Health Alert



City of Chicago
Rahm Emanuel, Mayor

Communicable Disease Program

Chicago Department of Public Health
Julie Morita, MD, Commissioner

Meningococcal Vaccine Recommendations for HIV-positive Individuals

Date: July 16, 2015

To: HIV Providers, Infection Preventionists, Emergency Department, Infectious Disease, Primary Care, Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Pediatrics, Critical Care physicians and Laboratory personnel

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Since mid-May 2015, the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) has investigated 6 confirmed cases of invasive meningococcal disease (IMD) in men who have sex with men (MSM), one of which was fatal. An additional IMD case was reported in DuPage County. All 7 *N. meningitidis* isolates are serogroup C and 5 isolates tested to date are indistinguishable by pulsed-field gel electrophoresis (PFGE). The age of cases range from 29-54 years; 6 of 7 are African American and 5 of 7 are HIV positive. CDPH continues to recommend vaccination of all MSM against meningococcal disease.

Vaccine Recommendations. Two meningococcal conjugate vaccines (i.e., Menactra, Menveo) that provide protection against serogroups A, C, W135, and Y are licensed for use in adults through age 55 years. Most adults only need one dose for adequate protection; **HIV-infected and immunocompromised individuals should receive 2 doses, separated by 8 weeks (i.e., at 0 and 2 months).** Although meningococcal polysaccharide vaccine (i.e., Menomune) is the only licensed vaccine for adults aged 56 and older, conjugate vaccine (i.e. Menactra, Menveo) can be used for this age group in the context of this serogroup C outbreak.

If healthcare providers do not have vaccine available, patients can be referred to pharmacies, CDPH Fast-track clinics, and community events. A list of providers currently offering meningococcal vaccine is available on the CDPH [website](http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/cdph/supp_info/infectious/meningococcal-vaccine-locations.html) (http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/cdph/supp_info/infectious/meningococcal-vaccine-locations.html) and can also be found at www.chicagomeningvax.org. Providers or patients may also directly call 311 to obtain locations where vaccine is accessible for both insured and uninsured individuals.

Brand Name	Menactra	Menveo	Menomune
Characteristics	Conjugate Vaccine (MCV4)	Conjugate Vaccine (MCV4)	Polysaccharide Vaccine (MPSV4)
CPT Code	90734	90734	90733
Serogroups	A, C, W135, Y	A, C, W135, Y	A, C, W135, Y
Manufacturer & Licensure	Sanofi Pasteur, Licensed in 2005	Novartis, Licensed in 2010	Sanofi Pasteur, Licensed in 1981
Age Guidelines	9 months . 55 years*	2 . 55 years*	56 years and older
Administration	Intramuscular	Intramuscular	Subcutaneous
Vaccine properties	Single-dose vials, no preservative or adjuvant	Single-dose vials, no preservative or adjuvant, requires reconstitution	Single-dose or 10-dose vials, diluent in sterile water with thimerisol requires reconstitution

*Conjugate vaccine (i.e. Menactra, Menveo) can be used for this age group in the context of this serogroup C outbreak.

There are limited data regarding the risk of meningococcal disease in relation to a person's CD4 count. There is also limited data on vaccine effectiveness in patients with low CD4 counts. Clinicians must ensure that patients understand the risk factors for disease, as well as signs/symptoms of illness, and provide post-exposure chemoprophylaxis to close contacts (household, intimate, and/or sexual contacts) of confirmed cases regardless of vaccination history.

Revaccination: Persons at increased risk of meningococcal disease require revaccination every 5 years as long as the person remains at increased risk. Therefore, individuals who received meningococcal vaccination in Chicago during the 2003 campaign are no longer immune unless they have been revaccinated since 2010.

Additional information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention about *N. meningitidis* infection and meningococcal vaccines can be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/meningococcal/index.html> and <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6003a3.htm>

Please remember to report cases of IMD to CDPH immediately. Please ensure that bacterial isolates are submitted to the Illinois Public Health Laboratory for serogrouping and molecular typing in a timely fashion. To report a suspect or confirmed case of meningococcal disease, please call 312-746-5377 or 312-746-5925 during business hours; during non-business hours, call 311 and ask for the communicable disease physician on-call.

Chicago Health Alert Network (HAN). The HAN is a secure web based communication tool that the CDPH uses to disseminate quick, reliable and up-to-date information to our public health partners. We encourage all medical providers to become a member of the HAN. To register, please go to www.chicagohan.org and click in the box that says "Want to learn more about the HAN?"+

Reference:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Prevention and Control of Meningococcal Disease: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) MMWR, March 22, 2013, 62(RR02):1-22.