

TO: EZIZ Users
FROM: CDPH
SUBJECT: Consider Meningitis B vaccination for your patients ages 16-23
DATE: 12/6/17

With meningococcal serogroup B disease occurring in college students across the country, including recent cases at Oregon State University and the University of Massachusetts, providers should consider vaccinating patients at risk for meningococcal B disease, including college students returning home during the winter break.

Meningococcal serogroup B disease (also known as meningitis B) is an uncommon but lethal cause of meningitis and septicemia. Survivors can have brain damage, hearing loss or loss of limbs.

To help prevent meningococcal B disease, either of the two licensed serogroup B meningococcal vaccines — Bexsero® and Trumenba® - are recommended routinely for people 10 years or older who:

- Are at risk during serogroup B meningococcal disease outbreaks
- Have functional or anatomical asplenia
- With persistent complement component deficiency
- Taking eculizumab (Soliris®)
- Who are microbiologists routinely working with isolates of *N. meningitidis*

Meningococcal B vaccines also may be given to anyone 16 through 23 years old to provide short-term protection against most strains of serogroup B meningococcal disease. The University of California strongly recommends that its students up to 23 years of age who elect vaccination after discussion with their healthcare provider receive meningitis B vaccine.

Providers are also reminded to:

- Immunize with meningococcal ACWY conjugate vaccine per [routine](#) and [high-risk](#) recommendations to protect patients against other serogroups of meningococcal disease
- Consider meningococcal disease in patients presenting with unexplained high fever, headache, stiff neck, or rash. Please report any suspected cases to your [local public health department](#).

Resources

[Serogroup B Meningococcal Disease: What You Need to Know Fact Sheet \(CDC\)](#)

[Meningococcal Vaccination Information \(CDC\)](#)

Serogroup B Meningococcal Vaccines: Information for [Parents](#) | [Providers](#) (CDPH)

Meningococcal Vaccine Timing: [Routine](#) | [High-risk](#) (CDPH)

[University of California Immunization Requirements and Recommendations](#)
[ShotsForSchool.org college immunization information](#)