IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENT

ABOUT THE MEASLES REQUIREMENT: Measles (rubeola) is a serious disease that is entirely preventable. Iowa State University follows the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s recommendation for immunization. To prevent the possibility of a measles epidemic occurring here, ISU requires that all new (including transfer and graduate) students born on or after January 1, 1957 show proof of immunization or immunity. Measles immunizations may be listed on your immunization record as MMR, M/R or Measles. Iowa State University requires proof of 2 immunizations. If you have chosen to provide proof of immunity, a record of the lab results showing a positive Rubeola titer must be provided. If you have a medical or religious exemption please fax a copy of the Iowa Department of Public Health exemption form located at: http://www.idph.state.ia.us/ADPER/common/pdf/immunization/products/cert_of_immunization.pdf

ABOUT YOUR RECORDS: Your immunization records can be obtained from your health care provider’s office. They may also be available from your high school or from other colleges or universities you have attended. Public health department and military records are also acceptable. Please note that all immunization dates and tests must include the month, day, and year. A photocopy of your immunization record is required and should be attached to this form. Please do not send original documents.

IF YOU NEED A MEASLES IMMUNIZATION: The Thielen Student Health Center is located on the northeast corner of Union Drive and Sheldon Avenue, just west of Beyer Hall. Please call 515-294-5801, and use option 1 for an appointment. New students are eligible for vaccinations beginning with New Student Orientation and throughout the summer. Please note that there will be a charge for the vaccines. You may also visit your current health care provider or contact your county health department for a measles vaccination and send the appropriate documentation to the Thielen Student Health Center at 515-296-6677.

INFORMATION IS DUE JULY 31st: If you do not provide this information before July 31st, it may interfere with your ability to register for classes the following semester.

2. TUBERCULOSIS (TB) SCREENING IS REQUIRED FOR INCOMING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
This will be arranged in conjunction with the ISU International Office, and must be performed after arrival at ISU.

3. MENINGITIS VACCINATION INFORMATION IS REQUIRED for incoming students. The State of Iowa requires that all colleges and universities provide information on meningitis vaccination to incoming students. If you will be living in the residence halls, it is recommended by the Centers for Disease Control that you receive this vaccine. Information on the vaccine is attached. Please read the meningitis information and include a copy of your meningitis vaccination with your other immunization records. (See #1 above)

4. CHECKLIST FOR REQUIREMENTS
☐ Obtain a copy of your immunization documentation showing that you have received 2 measles immunizations
☐ Read the attached meningitis information and, if you are vaccinated, include a copy of your vaccination with your measles documentation
☐ Download and complete Student Health Insurance Information form
☐ Before July 31, fax these forms and your immunization documentation to 515-296-6677 or scan and e-mail to tshcmr@iastate.edu

Forms may also be mailed to:
Iowa State University
2260 Thielen Student Health Center
Attn: Immunizations
Ames, Iowa 50011-2260
Phone: 515-294-9218
MENINGOCOCCAL VACCINES

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Many Vaccine Information Statements are available in Spanish and other languages. See www.immunize.org/vis.

1 What is meningococcal disease?

Meningococcal disease is a serious bacterial illness. It is a leading cause of bacterial meningitis in children 2 through 18 years old in the United States. Meningitis is an infection of the fluid surrounding the brain and spinal cord.

Meningococcal disease also causes blood infections.

About 1,000 - 2,600 people get meningococcal disease each year in the U.S. Even when they are treated with antibiotics, 10-15% of these people die. Of those who survive, another 11-19% lose their arms or legs, become deaf, have problems with their nervous systems, become mentally retarded, or suffer seizures or strokes.

Anyone can get meningococcal disease. But it is most common in infants less than one year of age and people with certain medical conditions, such as lack of a spleen. College freshmen who live in dormitories, and teenagers 15-19 have an increased risk of getting meningococcal disease.

Meningococcal infections can be treated with drugs such as penicillin. Still, about 1 out of every ten people who get the disease dies from it, and many others are affected for life. This is why preventing the disease through use of meningococcal vaccine is important for people at highest risk.

2 Meningococcal vaccine

There are two kinds of meningococcal vaccine in the U.S.:

- **Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4)** was licensed in 2005. It is the preferred vaccine for people 2 through 55 years of age.

- **Meningococcal polysaccharide vaccine (MPSV4)** has been available since the 1970s. It may be used if MCV4 is not available, and is the only meningococcal vaccine licensed for people older than 55.

Both vaccines can prevent 4 types of meningococcal disease, including 2 of the 3 types most common in the United States and a type that causes epidemics in Africa. Meningococcal vaccines cannot prevent all types of the disease. But they do protect many people who might become sick if they didn't get the vaccine.

Both vaccines work well, and protect about 90% of people who get them. MCV4 is expected to give better, longer-lasting protection.

MCV4 should also be better at preventing the disease from spreading from person to person.

3 Who should get meningococcal vaccine and when?

A dose of MCV4 is recommended for children and adolescents 11 through 18 years of age.

This dose is normally given during the routine pre-adolescent immunization visit (at 11-12 years). But those who did not get the vaccine during this visit should get it at the earliest opportunity.

Meningococcal vaccine is also recommended for other people at increased risk for meningococcal disease:

- College freshmen living in dormitories.
- Microbiologists who are routinely exposed to meningococcal bacteria.
- U.S. military recruits.
- Anyone traveling to, or living in, a part of the world where meningococcal disease is common, such as parts of Africa.
- Anyone who has a damaged spleen, or whose spleen has been removed.
- Anyone who has terminal complement component deficiency (an immune system disorder).
- People who might have been exposed to meningitis during an outbreak.

MCV4 is the preferred vaccine for people 2 through 55 years of age in these risk groups. MPSV4 can be used if MCV4 is not available and for adults over 55.

How Many Doses?

People 2 years of age and older should get 1 dose. Sometimes a second dose is recommended for people who remain at high risk. Ask your provider.

MPSV4 may be recommended for children 3 months to 2 years of age under special circumstances. These children should get 2 doses, 3 months apart.
Some people should not get meningococcal vaccine or should wait

- Anyone who has ever had a severe (life-threatening) allergic reaction to a previous dose of either meningococcal vaccine should not get another dose.
- Anyone who has a severe (life threatening) allergy to any vaccine component should not get the vaccine. Tell your provider if you have any severe allergies.
- Anyone who is moderately or severely ill at the time the shot is scheduled should probably wait until they recover. Ask your provider. People with a mild illness can usually get the vaccine.
- Anyone who has ever had Guillain-Barré Syndrome should talk with their provider before getting MCV4.
- Meningococcal vaccines may be given to pregnant women. However, MCV4 is a new vaccine and has not been studied in pregnant women as much as MPSV4 has. It should be used only if clearly needed.
- Meningococcal vaccines may be given at the same time as other vaccines.

What are the risks from meningococcal vaccines?

A vaccine, like any medicine, could possibly cause serious problems, such as severe allergic reactions. The risk of meningococcal vaccine causing serious harm, or death, is extremely small.

Mild problems

As many as half the people who get meningococcal vaccines have mild side effects, such as redness or pain where the shot was given.

If these problems occur, they usually last for 1 or 2 days. They are more common after MCV4 than after MPSV4.

A small percentage of people who receive the vaccine develop a fever.

Severe problems

- Serious allergic reactions, within a few minutes to a few hours of the shot, are very rare.
- A serious nervous system disorder called Guillain-Barré Syndrome (or GBS) has been reported among some people who received MCV4. This happens so rarely that it is currently not possible to tell if the vaccine might be a factor. Even if it is, the risk is very small.

What if there is a moderate or severe reaction?

What should I look for?

- Any unusual condition, such as a high fever, weakness, or behavior changes. Signs of a serious allergic reaction can include difficulty breathing, hoarseness or wheezing, hives, paleness, weakness, a fast heart beat or dizziness.

What should I do?

- Call a doctor, or get the person to a doctor right away.
- Tell your doctor what happened, the date and time it happened, and when the vaccination was given.
- Ask your doctor, nurse, or health department to report the reaction by filing a Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) form.

Or you can file this report through the VAERS web site at [www.vaers.hhs.gov](http://www.vaers.hhs.gov), or by calling 1-800-822-7967.

VAERS does not provide medical advice.

The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program

A federal program exists to help pay for the care of anyone who has had a rare serious reaction to a vaccine.

For information about the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, call 1-800-338-2382 or visit their website at [www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation](http://www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation).

How can I learn more?

- Ask your doctor or nurse. They can give you the vaccine package insert or suggest other sources of information.
- Call your local or state health department.
- Contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):
  - Call 1-800-232-4636 (1-800-CDC-INFO)
  - Visit CDC’s National Immunization Program website at [www.cdc.gov/vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines)
  - Visit CDC’s meningococcal disease website at [www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dbmd/diseaseinfo/ meningococcal_g.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dbmd/diseaseinfo/ meningococcal_g.htm)
  - Visit CDC’s Travelers’ Health website at [www.cdc.gov/travel](http://www.cdc.gov/travel)