MAKING THE DECISION ON

Meningococcal B (MenB) Vaccination

MenB vaccination is recommended:

- As a 2-dose series for healthy adolescents aged 16-23 years, based on shared clinical decision-making with the provider
- Routinely for patients ≥10 years of age at high risk of getting infected*

1 MenB disease is a rare, but serious illness

- Although not common, MenB causes most of the meningococcal disease among US adolescents
- The disease moves quickly and is deadly in about 10% of cases
- The recommended MenACWY vaccine does not protect against MenB

2 MenB vaccines are available to help prevent MenB

- Two MenB vaccines are available; both help prevent MenB disease
- There is no cost for the vaccine for patients <19 years of age or for most patients ≥19 years with any type of health insurance
- Most side effects are mild and include pain at the injection site, muscle aches, fatigue, and headache

3 There are multiple reasons to be vaccinated

- The risk of MenB disease can be about 3 times higher for those attending college
- MenB vaccines may help protect against MenB
- Teens or young adults with chronic medical conditions may want to discuss MenB vaccination with their healthcare provider

*Persons at increased risk include those with persistent complement component deficiencies, those with anatomic or functional asplenia, or microbiologists routinely exposed to isolates of *Neisseria meningitidis*.

References:

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3. Marshall GS, Dempsey AF, Srivastava A, Isturiz RE. US college students are at increased risk for serogroup B meningococcal disease. *J Pediatric Infect Dis Soc*. 2020;9(2):244-247.
4. Mbaeyi S. Serogroup B meningococcal vaccine booster doses. Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices Meeting; June 26-27, 2019; Atlanta, GA.
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6. Patton ME, Stephens D, Moore K, MacNeil JR. Updated recommendations for use of MenB-FHbp serogroup B meningococcal vaccine—Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, 2016. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep*. 2017;66(19):509-513.

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