



## MEMO

**TO:** Prevention Partnership Providers and  
Local Public Health Units

**FROM:** Molly Sander, MPH *MS*  
Immunization Program Manager

**RE:** Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine College Requirements

**DATE:** September 9, 2011

The State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) has added meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4) as a requirement for students attending North Dakota universities and colleges.

**Effective fall 2012, newly admitted students ages 21 and younger residing in campus housing must provide documentation of immunity against meningococcal disease. Documentation of immunity means: (a) evidence of at least one dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine in the five years prior to enrollment or (b) evidence of two doses of meningococcal conjugate vaccine administered at age 10 or older and at least eight weeks apart.**

Students enrolled only in distance learning courses, courses taught off campus, continuing education or noncredit courses, and students in attendance at camps, workshops or programs and classes delivered under contract to a third party are exempt from this policy.

Exemptions may be provided upon application under established campus procedures if; (a) immunization is contraindicated by a medical condition; or (b) a student's beliefs preclude participation in an immunization program.

The SBHE policy is available at [www.ndus.edu/makers/procedures/sbhe/default.asp?PID=74&SID=6](http://www.ndus.edu/makers/procedures/sbhe/default.asp?PID=74&SID=6). The procedures are at [www.ndus.edu/makers/procedures/NDUS/default.asp?PID=282&SID=57](http://www.ndus.edu/makers/procedures/NDUS/default.asp?PID=282&SID=57).

MCV4 is also required for all students entering middle schools in North Dakota.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends routine vaccination with MCV4 at age 11 or 12 years, with a booster dose at age 16 years.

The North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) supplies MCV4 for Vaccines for Children (VFC) eligible children (Medicaid, American Indian, uninsured and underinsured). Through September 30, 2011, providers may order MCV4 for all college freshman and high school seniors from the NDDoH. For more information on state-supplied vaccines, please review the vaccine coverage tables at [www.ndhealth.gov/Immunize/Documents/Providers/Forms/VaccineCoverage72011.pdf](http://www.ndhealth.gov/Immunize/Documents/Providers/Forms/VaccineCoverage72011.pdf) and [www.ndhealth.gov/Immunize/Documents/Providers/Forms/VaccineCoverage102011.pdf](http://www.ndhealth.gov/Immunize/Documents/Providers/Forms/VaccineCoverage102011.pdf).

Please feel free to contact the NDDoH Immunization Program with any questions or concerns at 701.328.3386 or toll-free at 800.472.2180.

CC: Kirby Kruger, Director  
Tracy Miller, State Epidemiologist