June 2016 Hotshot

To Men B or not to Men B?

That is the question! There seems to be confusion among some providers and clinics over the Ohio school required meningococcal vaccine and the newly licensed vaccines for meningococcal B. Please note that the requirement for school entry for Ohio 7th and 12th grade students is for the meningococcal ACWY vaccine (MCV4). This includes Menactra (Sanofi Pasteur) and Menveo (GSK).

CDC recommendation is for one dose of MCV4 vaccine at age 11 or 12 years, followed by a second (or booster) vaccination at age 16, as the protection provided by the first dose wanes within five years in many teens. Most providers have been immunizing their adolescent patients according to these ACIP recommendations for several years now. Following these recommendations meets the Ohio school requirement of one dose for 7th grade and one dose for 12th grade entry. If the second dose was given at/after age 16 and was at least 8 weeks from dose one, then the student is covered for the 12th grade vaccine. Additionally, if a student received their 1st dose after age 16, a booster dose is not required. Schools and colleges may consider a 2nd dose given even a few days before age 16 years as invalid, so keep that in mind when scheduling patients.

Two serogroup B meningococcal vaccines were recently licensed and approved for use for ages 10-25 years. They are Trumemb (Pfizer) and Bexsero (GSK). This is a category B recommendation, meaning it is designated for individual clinical decision making. MenB may be given along with MCV4 and all other adolescent vaccines. Recommendations and dosing may be found at [http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6441a3.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6441a3.htm).

*MenB is not part of the Ohio School entry requirement and cannot be used to complete the MCV4 series.*

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