

University of Missouri Meningococcal Vaccination Policy Compliance Form

See “Important Information Regarding Student Health and Safety” on the opposite page prior to completing form.

One section of this form must be completed for all students living in university residential housing.

To make an informed decision about receiving the vaccine it is important to read the information provided at the following websites: Center for Disease Control (CDC) <http://www.cdc.gov/nip/menus/diseases.htm#mening> and American College Health Association (ACHA) www.acha.org/projects_programs/meningitis/disease_info.cfm#recommendation. Please return this form and any necessary documentation to the address as listed below. If you do not have web access you may contact your campus for information.

Student Information

Complete this portion and Section 1 OR Section 2 below (not both)

Name: _____ Student Number: _____ DOB: _____
Last First M

Section 1: Students who have received the vaccine

I have received the meningococcal vaccine. A copy of the required documentation is attached.

Printed name of student: _____

Signature of student: _____ Date: _____

Section 2: Waivers—Students who have NOT received the vaccine (complete part A or B) If under the age of 18, only Part B can be completed

A. Students 18 years of age or older

I am 18 years of age or older. The University of Missouri has provided me information explaining the risks of meningococcal disease and I am aware of the effectiveness and availability of the vaccine. I understand the Missouri Law SB0686 requires “all students who reside in on-campus housing to sign a written waiver stating that the institution of higher education has provided the student, or if the student is a minor, the student’s parents or guardian, with detailed written information on the risks associated with meningococcal disease and the availability and effectiveness of the meningococcal vaccine.” I do not choose to get the meningococcal vaccine or do not have supporting documentation at this time.

Printed name of student

Signature of student Date

B. Student under the age of 18

I am the parent or legal guardian of (Student) _____. The University of Missouri has provided me information explaining the risks of meningococcal disease and I am aware of the effectiveness and availability of the vaccine. I understand that Missouri Law SB0686 requires “all students who reside in on-campus housing to sign a written waiver stating that the institution of higher education has provided the student, or if the student is a minor, the student’s parents or guardian, with detailed written information on the risks associated with meningococcal disease and the availability and effectiveness of the meningococcal vaccine.” I do not want (Student) _____ to get the meningococcal vaccine at this time.

Printed name of parent/guardian

Signature of parent/guardian Date

Office of Residential Life
5030 Cherry
Rm 109
Kansas City, MO 64110
Phone: (816) 235-8840

What You Need to Know About Meningococcal Vaccine

According to Missouri law SB 686, all students living in university residences must have either a meningococcal vaccine or a waiver on file.

The following information has been taken from the CDC website and is provided for your convenience. On the back of this sheet, you will find a meningococcal compliance form. You must complete this form and return it with your Housing Agreement in order to receive a room assignment.

If you have questions about this policy or need additional information, please see the letter from Student Health Services on page 11.

What is meningococcal disease?

Meningococcal disease is a serious illness, caused by a bacteria. It is the leading cause of bacterial meningitis in children 2-18 years old in the United States.

Meningitis is an infection of the brain and spinal cord coverings. Meningococcal disease can also cause blood infections. About 2,600 people get meningococcal disease each year in the U.S. 10-15% of these people die, in spite of treatment with antibiotics.

Of those who live, another 10% 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, international travelers, and people with certain medical conditions.

College freshmen, particularly those who live in dormitories, have a slightly increased risk of getting meningococcal disease.

Meningococcal vaccine can prevent 4 types of meningococcal disease.

These include 2 of the 3 types most common in the United States and a type which is the main cause of epidemics in Africa.

Meningococcal vaccine cannot prevent all types of the disease. But it does help to protect many people who might become sick if they don't get the vaccine. Drugs such as penicillin can be used to treat meningococcal infection.

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 it is important that people with the highest risk for meningococcal disease get the vaccine.

Who should get meningococcal vaccine and when?

- U.S. Military recruits
- People who might be affected during an outbreak of certain types of meningococcal disease.
- Anyone traveling to, or living in, a part of the world where meningococcal disease is common, such as West Africa.
- Anyone who has a damaged spleen, or whose spleen has been removed.
- Anyone who has terminal complement component deficiency (an immune system disorder).

The vaccine should also be *considered* for:

- Some laboratory workers who are routinely exposed to the meningococcal bacteria.
- The vaccine may also be given to college students who choose to be vaccinated. College freshmen, especially those who live in dormitories, and their parents should discuss the risks and benefits of vaccination with their health care providers.

Meningococcal vaccine is usually not recommended for children under two years of age. But under special circumstances it may be given to infants as young as 3 months (the vaccine does not work as well in very young children). Ask your health care provider for details.

How many doses?

- For people 2 years of age and over: 1 dose (Sometimes an additional dose is recommended for people who continue to be at high risk. Ask your provider.)
- For children 3 months to 2 years of age who need the vaccine: 2 doses, 3 months apart

What are the risks?

A vaccine, like any medicine, is capable of causing serious problems, such as severe allergic reactions. The risk of the meningococcal vaccine causing serious harm, or death, is extremely small. Getting meningococcal vaccine is much safer than getting the disease.

Mild problems

Some people who get meningococcal vaccine have mild side effects, such as redness or pain where the shot was given. These symptoms usually last for 1-2 days. A small percentage of people who receive the vaccine develop a fever.

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's immunization program.
- Contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):
 - Call **1-800-232-2522** (English)
 - Call **1-800-232-0233** (Español)
- Visit the National Immunization Program's website at **www.cdc.gov/nip**
- Visit CDC's Travelers Health website at **www.cdc.gov/travel**
- Visit the National Center for Infectious Disease's meningococcal disease website at **http://www.cdc.gov/nip/vaccine/mening/mening_fs.htm**