



Pat Quinn, Governor
LaMar Hasbrouck, MD, MPH, Director

525-535 West Jefferson Street • Springfield, Illinois 62761-0001 • www.idph.state.il.us

MEMORANDUM

To: Local Health Department Administrators, Local Health Department VFC Grantees, Communicable Disease Staff, and Immunization Staff
Regional Immunization Staff and Regional Offices of IDPH
Vaccines For Children (VFC) Providers

From: William Moran, Chief, Immunization Section

CC: VFC Compliance Staff

Subject: **Meningococcal Vaccine Requirements Start with School Year 2015-16**

Date: December 14, 2013

This notice is to inform and clarify information about the start date for the new Meningococcal Vaccine Requirements. House Bill 3190 was signed into law as Public Act 098-0480 to become effective in January 1, 2014; however, the new law allows that the requirement would not be implemented until at least six months after the Department established administrative rules for implementing the law. **It is anticipated the meningococcal requirement will be implemented for the 2015-2016 school year**

In accordance with current requirements of Public Act 90-0607, the State Board of Health is required to conduct three public hearings whenever there are any proposed changes to the administrative rules regarding immunization of children against vaccine preventable communicable diseases. Given the timeframes for conducting the public hearings during 2014, completing additional public comment periods and administrative review periods, and ensuring a period of a minimum of six months after the administrative rules are adopted to notify schools, parents, and health care providers of the new requirements, it is not expected that the meningococcal requirement will be implemented until the 2015-2016 school year.

The new law will require students, upon entering the sixth and the twelfth grade of any public, private, or parochial school, to receive an immunization containing meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4) in accordance with the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). The immunization requirement consists of one dose of the MCV4 vaccine for 6th grade entrance and 2 doses for 12th grade entrance, unless the first dose was administered to a child who was 16 years of age or older, in which case only one dose would be required at 12th grade entrance.

Even though the meningococcal requirement will not go into effect until the 2015 school year, we encourage providers to vaccinate against meningococcal according to ACIP recommendations, which are available at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/vacc-specific/mening.html>.

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