

Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program Meningococcal B Vaccine Summary Updated January 2016

Purpose of vaccine summary

1. Provide revised recommendations for use of meningococcal B vaccine as outlined by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).
2. Provide Iowa VFC Program recommendations for the use of meningococcal B vaccines effective January 26, 2016.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

Trumenba manufactured by Wyeth Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

- October 2014 - licensed as a 3-dose series to be given at 0, 2, and 6 month intervals
- Indicated for persons 10 through 25 years of age

Bexsero manufactured by Novartis Vaccines

- January 2015 - licensed as a 2-dose series to be given at 0 and 1 month intervals
- Indicated for persons 10 through 25 years of age

Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)

- [Use of Serogroup B Meningococcal Vaccines in Persons Aged ≥10 Years at Increased Risk for Serogroup B Meningococcal Disease: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, 2015](#)
- [Use of Serogroup B Meningococcal Vaccines in Adolescents and Young Adults: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, 2015](#)

VFC Resolution

The VFC Program follows the ACIP recommendations for the use of meningococcal B vaccine for VFC eligible children through 18 years of age. The VFC Program covers meningococcal B vaccination for those:

- 10 through 18 years of age identified as being at [increased risk](#) due to a medical condition or a serogroup B meningococcal disease outbreak
- 16 through 18 years of age without high risk conditions may also be vaccinated

Indications and Usage

Meningococcal B vaccine can help prevent meningococcal disease caused by serogroup B. Other meningococcal vaccines are recommended to help protect against serogroups A, C, W, and Y.

ACIP recommendations for the use of meningococcal B vaccine

On June 12, 2015, the CDC published recommendations of the ACIP for the following people to be vaccinated against *Neisseria meningitidis* serogroup B with either brand of meningococcal B vaccine:

- People age 10 years and older who have functional or anatomic asplenia
- People age 10 years and older who have persistent complement component deficiency
- People age 10 years and older who are at risk during an outbreak caused by a vaccine serogroup, such as on college campuses
- Microbiologists who work with *Neisseria meningitidis* bacteria in a laboratory

- On October 23, 2015, additional recommendations were published for adolescents and adults that the meningococcal B vaccine series may be administered to people 16-23 years of age, preferably between 16-18 years. This is a category B recommendation which allows the clinician to make the recommendation based on the risk and benefit for each individual patient.

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) requires non-grandfathered health care plans to provide benefit coverage for any vaccine with a category A or B recommendation. The VFC Program also covers vaccines with a category B recommendation.

Dosage and Administration

The recommended dose is 0.5 mL administered as an intramuscular injection. Refer to package insert. **The two brands of vaccine are not interchangeable.**

Meningococcal B vaccines may be administered at the same time or any time before or after meningococcal conjugate quadrivalent vaccine.

Recommended Schedule for Trumenba Vaccine

A series started with **Trumenba** should be completed using **Trumenba**.

- 1st dose: Initial dose
- 2nd dose: 2 months after the first dose
- 3rd dose: 6 months after the first dose

Recommended Schedule for Bexsero Vaccine

A series started with **Bexsero** should be completed using **Bexsero**.

- 1st dose: Initial dose
- 2nd dose: 1 month after the first dose

Vaccine Storage and Handling

- Store refrigerated at 2 - 8° C, 35 - 46° F
- Protect from light
- Do not freeze

Precautions

With any medicine, including vaccines, there is a chance of reactions. These are usually mild and go away within a few days, but serious reactions are also possible.

More than half of the people who get meningococcal B vaccine have mild problems following vaccination. These reactions can last up to 3 to 7 days, and include:

- Soreness, redness, or swelling where the shot was given
- Tiredness or fatigue
- Headache
- Muscle or joint pain
- Fever or chills
- Nausea or diarrhea

Because those vaccinated may develop syncope, sometimes resulting in falling with injury, observation for 15 minutes after administration is recommended. Refer to package insert for additional precaution information.

Contraindications

Meningococcal B vaccine is contraindicated for persons with a history of immediate hypersensitivity to any vaccine component. Refer to package insert for additional contraindication information.

CPT Codes

Bexsero (Novartis Vaccines) CPT Code 90620

Trumenba (Wyeth Pharmaceuticals, Inc.) CPT Code 90621