

March 2, 2016

Eligibility criteria for publicly funded Meningococcal vaccines

Bexsero (4CMenB) vaccine is available for children 2 months to 17 years of age with the following high risk conditions:

- Functional or anatomic asplenia
- Complement, properdin, factor D or primary antibody deficiencies
- Cochlear implant recipients (pre/post implant)
- Acquired complement deficiencies (e.g., receiving eculizumab)
- HIV

Two to four doses may be required depending on the age at first dose. Refer to the *Publicly Funded Immunization Schedules for Ontario – October 2015* (Table 13) for the schedule of doses.

Fever is a common side effect of this vaccine in children under 3 years of age. Prophylactic use of acetaminophen and/or separating Bexsero administration from other vaccines may be considered to help prevent fever in this age group.

**Menactra** (Men-C-ACYW) or (**Menomune** (Men-P-ACYW) subject to availability) is also available for individuals 9 months of age or older who meet the same eligibility criteria. The Immunization Schedule (Table 14) outlines the schedule of doses for this vaccine as well.

An order form for high risk meningococcal vaccines can be obtained from the WEHCU website at <a href="https://wechu.org/professionals/health-care-providers/vaccine-providers">https://wechu.org/professionals/health-care-providers/vaccine-providers</a> by emailing <a href="mailto:vaccine@wechu.org">vaccine@wechu.org</a> or by contacting our office at 519-258-2146 ext. 1121.

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