

The Immunisation Team
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Dear Parent/Guardian

Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio (Td/IPV) and Meningococcal Groups ACWY (MenACWY) Immunisation for Teenagers

The National Childhood Immunisation Programme has meant that dangerous diseases such as tetanus, diphtheria and polio have practically disappeared in this country. It is important that everyone keeps up their immunity so that these diseases do not return. All children need five doses of tetanus, diphtheria and polio vaccination to build up and maintain immunity. The first three doses should have been given as a baby and the fourth at around four years old. The fifth dose is due now.

From September 2015 all young people are being offered the MenACWY vaccine as part of their routine immunisations. It is being offered in response to a rapidly growing increase in cases of a highly aggressive strain of meningococcal disease group W (MenW). Since 2009 there has been a year on year increase in the cases of MenW and there are no signs of the number declining; a teenager is at a higher risk of getting MenW meningococcal disease. This disease can cause meningitis and septicaemia that can kill in hours and those who recover may be left severely disabled. This vaccine protects against meningitis (inflammation of the brain) and septicaemia (blood poisoning) caused by meningococcal groups A, C, W and Y. The vaccine will protect against the disease as well as reducing the risk of the bacteria being carried, therefore protecting other people.

These are very safe vaccines and there are very few circumstances in which it should not be given. These include:

- A severe reaction to the antibiotic Streptomycin, Neomycin or Polymyxin B (Not penicillin). The level of reaction would be termed an anaphylactic reaction which leads to breathing difficulties and often hospitalisation.
- A previous anaphylactic reaction to one of these immunisations. Reactions such as a rash are not a reason to avoid immunisation.
- Pregnancy or altered immunity.

A leaflet explaining the programme is enclosed. In order for your child to receive this immunisation please complete the online consent form (one per child) so that your child can be given the vaccine in school by accessing the following link.

<https://www.glos-care.nhs.uk/consentforms>

When consenting online please ensure that consent is completed 24 hours prior to the session date. After

this time a paper consent form will need to be completed and can be downloaded from the online consent link and brought into school by your child on the day of the vaccination session. If you do not have access to the internet, paper consent forms can be accessed via your school receptionist. If opting to consent via the paper consent form please return it to school within one week.

Please note if the consent form is not returned your child will not be able to have the vaccine
For more information about the DTP/Men ACWY programme, consent and the date of your child's session, please see the Immunisation Team website at:
<https://www.glos-care.nhs.uk/our-services/children-young-people/immunisation>

Or contact the Immunisation Team on. 0300 421 8140 or email
glos-care.immunisationteam@nhs.net

Please remember to return the consent form even if you DO NOT consent to the vaccination for your child, explaining the reason for your decision. This will help us in the development of the school based vaccination programme.

We recommend that you discuss your vaccination choice with your son or daughter.

All personal data receive about your son/daughter will be held securely, and only accessed by appropriate persons involved in your child's care. It will be processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of personal data. The Trust has a detailed privacy notice which is available here:

<https://www.glos-care.nhs.uk/fair-processing-notice>

The Trust is compliant with the NHS national information governance toolkit. Our most recent assessment is available here

<https://www.igt.hscic.gov.uk/ReportsOrganisationChooser.aspx?tk=431594603293679&Inv=3&cb=18ac67d8-886a-4be8-ab45-ca1ba18f5cc3&reptypeid=1>

Your child's data will be processed solely to ensure that your child is offered their vaccination in line with the National Childhood Immunisation Programme. The data, and response received will form part of the child's health record. All data, therefore, will be retained, in accordance with the NHS records management code of practice, for children's records. This can be viewed here:

<https://digital.nhs.uk/article/1202/Records-Management-Code-of-Practice-for-Health-and-Social-Care-2016>

We have a statutory duty to report statistical vaccinations data, as a percentage of the population; your response will form part of that statistical data. We provide this information to Public Health England, there is no personal data involved in this return.

Thank you for returning the consent form



Caroline Halford
Immunisation Team Coordinator