NEW STUDENT IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Dear New Student,

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the Wellness Center Student Health Services (SHS), located on the 6th Floor of the Graduate Center. In addition to providing medical care to registered Graduate Center students when the nurse practitioner is on site, Student Health Services is responsible for maintaining all immunization records. The immunization requirement for new students consists of two parts. Both parts MUST be completed in order to register for classes.

PART A: You will not be permitted to register for classes until official MMR documentation is submitted.

According to New York State Law (Public Health Law 2165), if you were born on or after January 1, 1957, you must provide proof of immunization against measles, mumps, and rubella. You may submit copies of existing documentation of your vaccinations (e.g., OFFICIAL documentation of measles, mumps and rubella vaccinations from childhood or from another university/institution). If you do not have existing documentation, you may have a medical practitioner complete, sign, and stamp the Student Immunization Record Form, which is enclosed for this purpose.

Compliance with NYS Public Health Law 2165 requires the following:

- Dates of two measles vaccinations or dates for two MMRs (combined measles, mumps, rubella vaccine). The two vaccinations are required to be at least 28 days apart, and the 1st dose must not have been administered more than 4 days prior to your 1st birthday.
- Date of one mumps vaccine received no more than 4 days prior to your 1st birthday (not necessary if you have had at least one MMR).
- Date of one rubella vaccine received no more than 4 days prior to your 1st birthday (not necessary if you have had at least one MMR).
- Health provider’s signature AND an official health provider stamp (MD, NP, PA), clinic stamp, or records office stamp must appear on the Student Immunization Record Form or on any other measles, mumps and rubella documentation (including records from another university) in order for it to be processed by our office.
- If you do not have any way to document past vaccinations, you may see a physician for a blood titer test. If you are submitting lab titer results as proof of immunity, a copy of the official lab report must be included.

PART B: You will not be permitted to register for classes until a Meningitis Response Form is submitted.

New York State Public Health Law 2167 requires all students review the meningococcal meningitis information attached to the Meningitis Response Form and file a record of an appropriate response with our office. The meningococcal vaccination is not required, however all Graduate Center students are required to (either):

1. Review the meningococcal disease information attached to the Meningitis Response Form, check the appropriate response, complete, sign and submit the form to the Wellness Center Student Health Services

2. OR Review the meningococcal disease information attached to the Meningitis Response Form and submit a copy of your documents showing vaccination against meningococcal disease within the last 5 years.

Submit all completed forms and/or documentation to Student Health Services. A scanned PDF attachment emailed to wellness@gc.cuny.edu is preferred. In person, mail, or fax is also acceptable. Please do not submit original documents and always keep a copy for your records.

We strongly advise that all new students begin this process early (at least 6 to 8 weeks prior to your registration date) to avoid any delays in registration. Please visit our website for more information: http://cuny.is/wellnesscenter

Thank you
Part A: Proof of MMR Vaccinations

STUDENT IMMUNIZATION RECORD FORM

Student, please complete the top section:

Name ___________________________ Date of Birth ___________________________ Student ID ___________________________
(Please print)

Phone ___________________________ Email ___________________________

Mailing Address ___________________________

Semester/Year entering ___________________________ Program ___________________________

NYS Public Health Law 2165 requires post-secondary students to show protection against measles, mumps, and rubella. Persons born prior to January 1, 1957, are exempt from this requirement. If you are claiming an exemption on this basis, you must send us a copy of your driver's license, passport, or birth certificate as proof of your date of birth in addition to submitting the meningitis response form. Submit all documentation to the Wellness Center Student Health Services.

Practitioner, please complete one of the sections below, print name, sign and stamp bottom section:

1. Two dates of M.M.R. Immunizations (Measles, Mumps, and Rubella)
   - Dose 1 - Immunized no more than 4 days prior to 1st birthday
   - Dose 2 - Immunized at least 28 days after Dose 1

OR

2. Two measles, one rubella, and one mumps:
   - Two dates of Measles Immunizations
     - Dose 1 __________________ (no more than 4 days prior to 1st birthday)
     - Dose 2 __________________ (at least 28 days after Dose 1)
   - Date of one rubella immunization __________________ no more than 4 days prior to 1st birthday
   - Date of one mumps immunization __________________ no more than 4 days prior to 1st birthday

OR

3. Blood titer results as proof of immunity:
   A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL LAB REPORT MUST BE INCLUDED IN ORDER FOR OUR OFFICE TO REVIEW
   - Date of Measles Titer __________________ Titer Results __________________ Reference Range __________________
   - Date of Rubella Titer __________________ Titer Results __________________ Reference Range __________________
   - Date of Mumps Titer __________________ Titer Results __________________ Reference Range __________________

Practitioner Name ___________________________ (Please Print)

Practitioner Signature ___________________________ Telephone ___________________________

OFFICE STAMP HERE
This form is not valid without a stamp
New York State Public Health Law 2167 requires that all college and university students enrolled for at least six (6) semester hours or the equivalent per semester, or at least four (4) semester hours per quarter, complete and return the following form to their college campus health office within thirty days, or you will be blocked from registration and from attending classes.

PRINT STUDENT’S INFORMATION

First & Last Name ____________________________________________

Student ID #_____________________ Date of Birth ___/___/______

Student Mailing Address ________________________________________

____________________________________________________________

Email___________________________________ Phone ___________________

Check one box and sign below.

I have:

☐ had meningococcal immunization within the past 5 years. The vaccine record is attached.

[Note: The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends that all first-year college students up to age 21 years should have at least 1 dose of Meningococcal ACWY vaccine not more than 5 years before enrollment, preferably on or after their 16th birthday, and that young adults aged 16 through 23 years may choose to receive the Meningococcal B vaccine series. College and university students should discuss the Meningococcal B vaccine with a healthcare provider.]

☐ read, or have had explained to me, the information regarding meningococcal disease. I will obtain immunization against meningococcal disease within 30 days from my private health care provider

☐ read, or have had explained to me, the information regarding meningococcal disease. I understand the risks of not receiving the vaccine. I have decided that I (my child) will not obtain immunization against meningococcal disease.

______________________________________      _______________________
Student's Signature                                              Date
Meningococcal Disease

What is meningococcal disease?
Meningococcal disease is caused by bacteria called Neisseria meningitidis. It can lead to serious blood infections. When the linings of the brain and spinal cord become inflamed, it is called meningitis. The disease strikes quickly and can have serious complications, including death.

Anyone can get meningococcal disease. Some people are at higher risk. This disease occurs more often in people who are:

- Teenagers or young adults
- Infants younger than one year of age
- Living in crowded settings, such as college dormitories or military barracks
- Traveling to areas outside of the United States, such as the “meningitis belt” in Africa
- Living with a damaged spleen or no spleen
- Being treated with Soliris® or who have complement component deficiency (an inherited immune disorder)
- Exposed during an outbreak
- Working with meningococcal bacteria in a laboratory

What are the symptoms?
Symptoms appear suddenly – usually 3 to 4 days after a person is infected. It can take up to 10 days to develop symptoms. Symptoms may include:

- A sudden high fever
- Headache
- Stiff neck (meningitis)
- Nausea and vomiting
- Red-purple skin rash
- Weakness and feeling very ill
- Eyes sensitive to light

How is meningococcal disease spread?
It spreads from person-to-person by coughing or coming into close or lengthy contact with someone who is sick or who carries the bacteria. Contact includes kissing, sharing drinks, or living together. Up to one in 10 people carry meningococcal bacteria in their nose or throat without getting sick.

Is there treatment?
Early diagnosis of meningococcal disease is very important. If it is caught early, meningococcal disease can be treated with antibiotics. But, sometimes the infection has caused too much damage for antibiotics to prevent death or serious long-term problems. Most people need to be cared for in a hospital due to serious, life-threatening infections.

What are the complications?
Ten to 15 percent of those who get meningococcal disease die. Among survivors, as many as one in five will have permanent disabilities. Complications include:

- Hearing loss
- Brain damage
- Kidney damage
- Limb amputations
What should I do if I or someone I love is exposed?

If you are in close contact with a person with meningococcal disease, talk with your health care provider about the risk to you and your family. They can prescribe an antibiotic to prevent the disease.

What is the best way to prevent meningococcal disease?

The single best way to prevent this disease is to be vaccinated. Vaccines are available for people 6 weeks of age and older. Various vaccines offer protection against the five major strains of bacteria that cause meningococcal disease:

- All teenagers should receive two doses of vaccine against strains A, C, W and Y. The first dose is given at 11 to 12 years of age, and the second dose (booster) at age 16.
  - It is very important that teens receive the booster dose at age 16 in order to protect them through the years when they are at greatest risk of meningococcal disease.
  - Talk to your health care provider today if your teen has not received two doses of vaccine against meningococcal strains A, C, W and Y.
- Teens and young adults can also be vaccinated against the "B" strain. Talk to your health care provider about whether they recommend vaccine against the "B" strain.

Others who should receive the vaccine include:

- Infants, children and adults with certain medical conditions
- People exposed during an outbreak
- Travelers to the "meningitis belt" of sub-Saharan Africa
- Military recruits

Please speak with your health care provider if you may be at increased risk.

What are the meningococcal vaccine requirements for school attendance?

As of September 1, 2016, children entering grades 7 and 12 must be immunized against meningococcal disease strains A, C, W and Y according to the recommendations listed above.

Is there an increased risk for meningococcal disease if I travel?

- Meningococcal disease and outbreaks occur in the United States and around the world. The disease is more common in the "meningitis belt" of sub-Saharan Africa. The risk is highest in people who visit these countries and who have prolonged contact with local populations during an epidemic.
- To reduce your risk of illness, wash your hands often, maintain healthy habits such as getting plenty of rest and try not to come into contact with people who are sick.

Travel and meningococcal disease:
wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/diseases/meningococcal-disease

Learn more about meningococcal disease:
www.cdc.gov/meningococcal/

For more information about vaccine-preventable diseases: www.health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization/

Bureau of Immunization