



NEVADA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

newsletter to promote pharmacy and drug law compliance

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MenACWY 12th Grade Requirement

On January 5, 2021, the Nevada State Board of Health and the Legislative Commission adopted amendments to the Nevada Administrative Code §392.105 and §394.250 to introduce meningococcal conjugate (MenACWY) vaccine requirements. This change requires at least one dose of the MenACWY vaccine to be administered to all students entering 12th grade in the 2022-2023 academic year. Per the changes, as of June 30, 2022, all students must receive at least one dose of the MenACWY vaccine on or after their 16th birthday. The requirement is applicable for Nevada public, private, and charter schools. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends a single dose of the MenACWY vaccine at 11-12 years of age, followed by a booster dose administered at 16 years of age.

The Nevada 12th grade MenACWY vaccination requirement should increase MenACWY vaccination series completion for students, as most received an initial dose prior to entering the 7th grade. To date, approximately 93% of 16- and

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17-year-old Nevadans have initiated the MenACWY vaccine sequence/series, but only 20% have series completion. To view the exact language of the new vaccination requirement, please visit www.leg.state.nv.us/Register/2020Register/R046-20AP.pdf.

What Is the Meningococcal Vaccine and Why Is It Important?

The meningococcal vaccine helps protect against four types of *Neisseria meningitidis* bacteria known to cause meningococcal disease (serogroups A, C, W, and Y). Once administered, the vaccine produces an immune response to aid in protection. Meningococcal infections are commonly presented as meningitis and septicemia. Meningitis causes swelling of the brain and spinal cord membranes and can also be present in the bloodstream, resulting in shock and multiorgan failure.

Common symptoms include:

- fever;
- headache;
- stiff neck;
- nausea;
- vomiting;
- increased sensitivity to light;
- rash; and
- confusion.

The meningococcus bacteria are spread by sharing respiratory and throat secretions, which can happen through lengthy contact or by close exchanges like coughing and kissing.

What Does This Mean for Nevada?

As of July 1, 2022, all incoming 12th graders must receive a MenACWY vaccine unless they are already up to date on the requirement. Students must be vaccine-compliant prior to enrollment into school. Students who present appropriate medical conditions may receive temporary or permanent medical exemptions granted by their physicians.

There are approximately 35,000 students in Nevada who will be entering 12th grade at public and charter schools this fall. Based on data from Nevada WebIZ, approximately 20% of 16- and 17-year-olds are considered up to date on the MenACWY vaccination series. This implies that more than 28,000 students would need a MenACWY vaccination before the end of the summer to begin 12th grade.

What Does This Mean for Pharmacists?

Pharmacies have become a popular site for vaccine uptake. Over the past four flu seasons in Nevada, pharmacy administration of the influenza vaccine has increased by 28%, and pharmacists have administered more influenza vaccinations than any other provider type. Pharmacists should have familiarity with the new regulation and be prepared to serve Nevada students in need of MenACWY vaccinations.

Nevada students are also able to receive this vaccination from primary care providers and local health authorities' federally qualified health centers. They can also utilize [Immunize Nevada's website](#) for assistance in locating the vaccine.

Updated Nevada School-Required Vaccination Schedule

Nevada School-Required Vaccination Schedule									
Required Vaccines	2 mo. of age	4 mo. of age	6 mo. of age	12-15 mo. of age	18-24 mo. of age	4-6 yrs. of age	11-12 yrs. of age	16 yrs. of age	Total Doses Required PRIOR to School Entry
DTP, DT, DTaP	1	2	3	4		5*			4 or 5 *If dose #4 is administered on or after 4 th birthday, #5 is not needed
Polio (IPV)	1	2	3			4*			3 or 4 *If dose #3 is administered on or after 4 th birthday, #4 is not needed.
MMR				1		2			2 (doses must be at least 4 weeks apart)
Hepatitis B	1	2	3						3
Varicella				1		2			2
Hepatitis A				1	2				2 (doses must be at least 6 months apart)
Tdap							1		1
Men-ACWY							1	2*	1 or 2 *If dose 1 is administered on or after 16 th birthday, no further doses required.

DHHS

The Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) promotes the health and well-being of its residents through the delivery or facilitation of a multitude of essential services to ensure that families are strengthened, public health is protected, and individuals achieve their highest level of self-sufficiency. DHHS is composed of five divisions along with additional programs and offices overseen by the DHHS Director's Office. For more information, visit

DHHS.nv.gov.

12th Grade MenACWY Vaccination Requirement Resources

- [Technical Bulletin Regarding MenACWY for Students Entering 12th Grade](#)
 - A previous Technical Bulletin was distributed in July 2021 regarding both the MenACWY vaccine requirements and immunization exemption form requirements:
[July 15, 2021 TB-IZ Exemption Requirement K12 \(nv.gov\)](#)
- [Form Letter for 12th Grade MenACWY Requirement](#) for the chief school nurses/schools to distribute to families and students
- [Form Letter for 12th Grade MenACWY Requirement – Spanish](#)
- [Press Release for 12th Grade MenACWY Requirement](#)
- [MenACWY FAQs](#)
- [MenACWY FAQs – Spanish](#)
- [NV WebIZ Reminder Recall Instructions](#): Providers can act now to avoid the school rush. The Nevada State Immunization Program has distributed the instructions to rural providers and encouraged the Vaccines for Children coordinators to distribute the document to their providers. The instructions will also be posted on the Nevada WebIZ home page.
- [MenACWY Graphics](#)
- [MenACWY Graphics – Spanish](#)
- Additional information about school immunizations can be found [here](#).

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