

UHS Meningitis Vaccine Information

Adolescents and young adults are at increased risk of meningococcal disease, often referred to as meningitis, a serious bacterial infection that can lead to lifelong complications and even death. However, the majority of these cases are vaccine preventable.

There are two kinds of vaccines available that may help protect against meningococcal disease. The disease is caused by several different types (serogroups) of bacteria.

The routinely recommended quadrivalent meningitis vaccine protects against 4 major serogroups (A, C, W, and Y) and is recommended for all individuals at age 11 to 12 years, with a booster dose at age 16 years.

There are also vaccines to protect against serogroup B, which only became available in the US in 2014 and may be recommended by a healthcare professional for individuals age 16 to 23 years who are at increased risk for meningitis (such as those living in residence halls).

University Health Services (UHS) offers both vaccines for students who may be in need of the primary series or a booster dose. UHS also offers other routine vaccines and can offer routine examinations to make sure you are up to date on everything to keep you healthy. Please contact UHS at 850-644-4567 if you are interested in making an appointment to learn more.

Additional information can be found at <http://www.nfid.org/meningococcal> and <https://www.cdc.gov/meningitis/>.