



**LAC DPH Health Advisory:
Meningococcal Outbreak at
Oregon State University**

December 13, 2017



*This message is intended for primary care, infectious disease, internal medicine, emergency medicine, and urgent care providers.
Please distribute as appropriate.*

Key messages

- An outbreak of invasive meningococcal disease (IMD) is currently ongoing among students at Oregon State University (OSU), located in Corvallis, OR.
- DPH is alerting providers to maintain a high index of suspicion for meningococcal disease in students attending universities in Oregon.

Situation

Since November 2016, five OSU students have developed IMD due to serogroup B, including two cases in the past 8 weeks. Vaccination against serogroup B is being recommended for all incoming and current OSU students aged 25 and under. No cases of IMD have been reported in a LAC resident since June 2017.

Actions Requested of Providers

- Maintain a high index of suspicion for meningococcal disease in returning or visiting students from Oregon.
- Inquire about connections to OSU or other universities in Oregon in patients with suspected meningococcal infection.
- Immediately report suspected cases of meningitis and IMD (see below).
- Provide serogroup B vaccine to OSU students on request (see below).

Vaccinating OSU Students

If you are asked to initiate or complete a vaccination series for an OSU student, Bexsero® is recommended because it is used by OSU Student Health Services for the current outbreak prevention efforts and the CDC recommends using the same brand for all doses. Bexsero® is a two-dose serogroup B vaccine series, with doses administered one month apart. If Trumenba®, the other brand of serogroup B vaccine, is used, note that three-doses should be given (administered at 0, 1-2 and 6 months).

Reporting and Public Health Response

Healthcare providers should report all suspected meningitis and IMD cases in LAC immediately to Los Angeles County Public Health Department (LAC DPH). Laboratory confirmation is not required to report.

LAC DPH will conduct case and contact investigations and can provide preventative antibiotics to close contacts of IMD cases.

Contact Information for Reporting and Questions

Los Angeles County DPH Acute Communicable Disease Control Program:

- Weekdays 8:30 am to 5:00 pm: 213-240-7941
- After hours: 213-974-1234. Ask for the physician on call.

Long Beach Health and Human Services:

- Weekdays 8am to 5pm: 562-570-4302
- After hours: 562-435-6711. Ask for the Communicable Disease Officer.

Pasadena Public Health Department:

- Weekdays 8am to 5pm (closed every other Friday): Communicable Disease Control Program 626-744-6089
- After hours: 626-744-6043.

Additional Meningitis Resources

- Meningitis-resources for health professionals (CDC):
<http://www.cdc.gov/meningitis/clinical-resources.html>
- Meningococcal Outbreaks (CDC):
<https://www.cdc.gov/meningococcal/outbreaks/index.html>
- Fact sheet on meningococcal disease for college communities (OHA):
http://studenthealth.oregonstate.edu/sites/studenthealth.oregonstate.edu/files/oha0665c_meningfaq_1.7.pdf

This Health Advisory was sent by Dr. Sharon Balter, Director, Acute Communicable Disease Control Program, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

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<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/lahan>