



NORTH SHORE PEDIATRICS, PC

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Meningitis B Vaccine Information and Waiver

There are 5 strains of the bacteria that cause bacterial meningitis. The vaccine we have been giving to our 11 year olds and boosting before college, Menactra, covers 4 of those 5 strains, but does not cover Type B Meningococcus.

Type B Meningococcus causes 30% of cases of bacterial meningitis, usually in the college age group, affecting about 1 in 1 million US residents per year. A vaccine against Type B meningitis "Men B" is now available. It is NOT required to live in a college dormitory yet, (most colleges do recommend the Menactra vaccine in order to line in their dorms). We will begin making it available to patients age 16-18 before college entry and as well to any interested patients age 19 and up. There have not yet been "extensive studies" on this vaccine, but available studies suggest it is generally safe and effective and comparable to the traditional meningitis vaccine, Menactra.

Since the Type B meningitis vaccine is relatively new, insurance companies are varied on their coverage of this vaccine. There is no way for North Shore Pediatrics, PC, its physicians, nurses or staff to be able to predict whether your insurance company or your individual insurance policy will cover the "Men B" vaccine. *It is our recommendation that if you have any questions regarding coverage of the "Men B" vaccine, that you contact your insurance company prior to receiving the vaccine.* When speaking with your insurance company, you will want to ask them if they cover "Type B Meningococcus" vaccine. Should they ask for a "CPT code," you should tell them that it will be billed under 90620.

Should you decide to receive the "Men B" vaccine, we will bill your insurance carrier for you, however, if your insurance company denies the claim for any reason (such as non-covered service) or if the vaccine is transferred to your responsibility under your deductible or co-insurance, you will be expected to pay out of pocket. The "Men B" vaccine is administered in 2 doses, given 4 weeks apart and should you be required to pay for the vaccine out of pocket, you can expect to receive a bill for approximately \$250.00 (two hundred fifty dollars) for each dose.

I have read and understand the above information and am requesting administration of the "Men B" vaccine

Child's Name

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date