

MASSACHUSETTS - HEALTH & RELEASE FORM FOR CAMPERS

(YOU WILL NOT BE ADMITTED TO CAMP WITHOUT THIS AND OTHER LISTED MEDICAL FORMS.)

A physical exam performed within the last 18 months is required to be attached to this form - OR - the bottom of this page must be completed and signed by an appropriate medical authority. Immunization records are required to be submitted in the form of an "Immunization Certificate."

Camp: _____ Camp Location: _____ Camp Dates: _____
Camper/Staff Name: _____ Sex: _____ Age: _____ Height: _____ Weight: _____
Address: _____
Number and Street (and Apartment) City State Zip Code

Home Tel. #: _____
Parent/Guardian: _____ Tel. # (H): _____ Tel. # (W): _____
Emergency Contact: Name: _____ Tel. #: _____

The camper or staff member may self-administer the following: Inhaler Epi-pen Neither

HEALTH INSURANCE

Carrier: _____ Policy Number: _____
Policy Holder: _____ Holder's DOB: _____

I hereby certify that the named camper/staff is physically able to participate in the Camp and that I know of no restrictions, physical impairments, or any other condition, other than noted below, which would limit, in any manner, his or her participation in this program.

I hereby give permission for the camp health staff to dispense the prescription medications listed below. I hereby give permission for the named camper/staff to receive emergency medical or surgical treatment and hospitalization if necessary. I understand that every attempt will be made to contact me, or the emergency contact named above, before taking this action. I UNDERSTAND THAT THERE IS RISK OF INJURY TO THE NAMED CAMPER/STAFF AS A RESULT OF CAMP ACTIVITIES, AND KNOWINGLY AND VOLUNTARILY ASSUME ALL RISK OF SUCH INJURY. I will be financially responsible for any medical attention needed during camp or resulting from an injury received at camp. My medical insurance shall be the insurance coverage for any medical treatment.

Signature of Parent or Guardian (or staff member, if over 18)

Date Signed

HEALTH RECORD AND EXAMINATION

***** Immunizations:** In accordance with current Centers for Disease Control guidelines. (Attach your child's "Immunization Certificate" Forms) ***

Allergies? Yes No Explain: _____
Special Diet? Yes No Explain: _____
Special Needs? Yes No Explain: _____
Prescription Meds.? Yes No Explain: _____
Other Pertinent Medical Information: _____

I certify that I have physically examined the above named camper, and that the individual is is not able to participate in all camp activities. (If "Is not" please explain restrictions:)

Provider's Name: _____ License # and State: _____
Provider's Address: _____

Medical Provider's Signature

Date Signed

Meningococcal Disease and Camp Attendees:

Commonly Asked Questions

August 2011

What is meningococcal disease?

Meningococcal disease is caused by infection with bacteria called *Neisseria meningitidis*. These bacteria can infect the tissue (the “meninges”) that surrounds the brain and spinal cord and cause meningitis, or they may infect the blood or other organs of the body. In the US, about 1,000-3,000 people get meningococcal disease each year and 10-15% die despite receiving antibiotic treatment. Of those who survive, about 11-19% may lose limbs, become deaf, have problems with their nervous system, become mentally retarded, or have seizures or strokes.

How is meningococcal disease spread?

These bacteria are passed from person-to-person through saliva (spit). You must be in close contact with an infected person’s saliva in order for the bacteria to spread. Close contact includes activities such as kissing, sharing water bottles, sharing eating/drinking utensils or sharing cigarettes with someone who is infected; or being within 3-6 feet of someone who is infected and is coughing and sneezing.

Who is at most risk for getting meningococcal disease?

People who travel to certain parts of the world where the disease is very common, microbiologists, people with HIV infection and those exposed to meningococcal disease during an outbreak are at risk for meningococcal disease. Children and adults with damaged or removed spleens or terminal complement component deficiency (an inherited immune disorder) are at risk. People who live in certain settings such as college freshmen living in dormitories and military recruits are at greater risk of disease.

Are camp attendees at increased risk for meningococcal disease?

Children attending day or residential camps are **not** considered to be at an increased risk for meningococcal disease because of their participation.

Is there a vaccine against meningococcal disease?

There are currently 2 types of vaccines available in the US that protect against 4 of the most common of the 13 serogroups (subgroups) of *N. meningitidis* that cause serious disease. Meningococcal polysaccharide vaccine is approved for use in those 2 years of age and older. There are 2 licensed meningococcal conjugate vaccines. Menactra® is approved for use in those 9 months – 55 years of age. Menveo® is approved for use in those 2 to 55 years of age. Meningococcal vaccines are thought to provide protection for approximately 5 years.

Should my child receive meningococcal vaccine?

Meningococcal vaccine is **not** recommended for attendance at camps. However, this vaccine is recommended for certain age groups; contact your child’s health care provider. In addition, parents of children who are at higher risk of infection, because of certain medical conditions or other circumstances, should discuss vaccination with their child’s healthcare provider.

How can I protect my child from getting meningococcal disease?

The best protection against meningococcal disease and many other infectious diseases is thorough and frequent handwashing, respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette. Individuals should:

1. wash their hands often, especially after using the toilet and before eating or preparing food (hands should be washed with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand gel or rub may be used if hands are not visibly dirty);
2. cover their nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing and discard the tissue in a trash can; or if they don’t have a tissue, cough or sneeze into their upper sleeve.
3. not share food, drinks or eating utensils with other people, especially if they are ill.

You can obtain more information about meningococcal disease or vaccination from your healthcare provider, your local Board of Health (listed in the phone book under government), or the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Division of Epidemiology and Immunization at (617) 983-6800 or toll-free at (888) 658-2850 or on the MDPH website at www.mass.gov/dph.



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To: Camp Directors
From: Pejman Talebian, MA, MPH, Director, Immunization Division
Date: March 2022
Subject: Required Immunizations for Children Attending Camp and Camp Staff

Vaccination is critically important to control the spread of vaccine-preventable disease. In 2017, a single case of mumps at a summer camp in Massachusetts resulted in isolation of ill individuals, vaccination of those without evidence of two doses of MMR vaccine at several camps, and quarantine of those who did not have evidence of immunity to mumps and who could not get vaccinated. International staff and campers with missing or incomplete vaccination records made rapid implementation of disease control measures very challenging.

Required Vaccines:

Minimum Standards for Recreational Camps for Children, 105 CMR 430.152, has been updated. Immunization requirements for children attending camp follow the Massachusetts school immunization requirements, as outlined in the [Massachusetts School Immunization Requirements](#) table, which reflects the newest requirement: meningococcal vaccine (MenACWY) for students entering grades 7 and 11 (on or after the 16th birthday, in the latter case; see the tables that follow for further details). Children should meet the immunization requirements for the grade they will enter in the school year following their camp session. Children attending camp who are not yet school aged should follow the Childcare/Preschool immunization requirements included on the School Immunization Requirements table.

Campers, staff and volunteers who are 18 years of age and older should follow the immunizations outlined in the document, [Adult Occupational Immunizations](#).

The following page includes portions of the Massachusetts School Immunization Requirements table and Adult Occupational Immunizations table relevant for camps.

If you have any questions about vaccines, immunization recommendations, or suspect or confirmed cases of disease, please contact the MDPH Immunization Program at 888-658-2850 or 617-983-6800. Address questions about enforcement with your legal counsel; enforcement of requirements is at the local level.

Grades Kindergarten – 6

In ungraded classrooms, Kindergarten requirements apply to all students ≥ 5 years.

DTaP	5 doses; 4 doses are acceptable if the 4 th dose is given on or after the 4 th birthday. DT is only acceptable with a letter stating a medical contraindication to DTaP.
Polio	4 doses; 4 th dose must be given on or after the 4 th birthday and ≥ 6 months after the previous dose, or a 5 th dose is required. 3 doses are acceptable if the 3 rd dose is given on or after the 4 th birthday and ≥ 6 months after the previous dose.
Hepatitis B	3 doses; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
MMR	2 doses; first dose must be given on or after the 1 st birthday and the 2 nd dose must be given ≥ 28 days after dose 1; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
Varicella	2 doses; first dose must be given on or after the 1 st birthday and 2 nd dose must be given ≥ 28 days after dose 1; a reliable history of chickenpox* or laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable

Grades 7 – 12

In ungraded classrooms, Grade 7 requirements apply to all students ≥ 12 years.

Tdap	1 dose; and history of DTaP primary series or age appropriate catch-up vaccination. Tdap given at ≥ 7 years may be counted, but a dose at age 11-12 is recommended if Tdap was given earlier as part of a catch-up schedule. Td or Tdap should be given if it has been ≥ 10 years since Tdap.
Polio	4 doses; 4 th dose must be given on or after the 4 th birthday and ≥ 6 months after the previous dose, or a 5 th dose is required. 3 doses are acceptable if the 3 rd dose is given on or after the 4 th birthday and ≥ 6 months after the previous dose.
Hepatitis B	3 doses; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable. 2 doses of Heplisav-B given on or after 18 years of age are acceptable.
MMR	2 doses; first dose must be given on or after the 1 st birthday and the 2 nd dose must be given ≥ 28 days after first dose; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
Varicella	2 doses; first dose must be given on or after the 1 st birthday and 2 nd dose must be given ≥ 28 days after first dose; a reliable history of chickenpox* or laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
MenACWY (formerly MCV4)	Grades 7: 1 dose; MenACWY required. Grades 11: 2 doses; 2 nd dose MenACWY must be given on or after the 16th birthday and ≥ 8 weeks after the previous dose. 1 dose is acceptable if it was given on or after the 16th birthday. Meningococcal B vaccine is not required and does not meet this requirement.

Campers, staff and volunteers 18 years of age and older

MMR	2 doses, anyone born in or after 1957. 1 dose, anyone born before 1957 outside the U.S. Anyone born in the U.S. before 1957 is considered immune. Laboratory evidence of immunity to measles, mumps and rubella is acceptable
Varicella	2 doses, anyone born in or after 1980 in the U.S., and anyone born outside the U.S. Anyone born before 1980 in the U.S. is considered immune. A reliable history of chickenpox or laboratory evidence of immunity is acceptable
Tdap	1 dose; and history of DTaP primary series or age appropriate catch-up vaccination. Tdap given at ≥ 7 years may be counted, but a dose at age 11-12 is recommended if Tdap was given earlier as part of a catch-up schedule; Td or Tdap should be given if it has been ≥ 10 years since Tdap
Hepatitis B	3 doses (or 2 doses of Heplisav-B) for staff whose responsibilities include first aid; laboratory evidence of immunity is acceptable

*A reliable history of chickenpox includes a diagnosis of chickenpox, or interpretation of parent/guardian description of chickenpox, by a physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant or designee.