

The American Academy of Pediatrics and the Centers for Disease Control recommend a new vaccine that prevents a deadly form of meningitis for:

- 1) **All 11-12 year-olds**
- 2) **All children entering high school**
- 3) **All individuals entering college.**

The vaccine is FDA approved for all persons aged 11-49 years. The vaccine is called **Menactra**. It is similar to the meningitis vaccine, Menomune, that we have administered to college freshman in the past. Teenagers who have received Menomune in the past five years do not need to be vaccinated with Menactra. The primary advantage of Menactra is that it produces longer protection against the meningococcal bacteria – up to ten years. A child vaccinated at age 11 will be protected throughout college.

We are recommending Menactra to all individuals outlined above. If we have an adequate supply of vaccine, we are willing to administer it to all of our patients 11 years of age and older.

Menactra is an expensive vaccine. Your insurance company has been unwilling to negotiate a reimbursement that will cover our costs. In order to receive this vaccine from our practice, you must make one of three choices below:

_____ I agree to have my child vaccinated and will pay the \$125 fee today.

_____ I request a prescription for the vaccine and will try to have it filled at a pharmacy. If I am able to obtain the vaccine, I will call for an appointment to return with the vaccine and my child to have him/her vaccinated.

_____ I do not want my child to receive the vaccine now and understand the risks of deferring the vaccine.

Parent's signature

Date