



## TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

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December 29, 2015

### **SUBJECT: Addition of Serogroup B Meningococcal (MenB) Vaccine to the Texas Vaccines for Children Program Formulary**

Dear Texas Vaccines for Children Program Provider,

This letter serves as a notification from the Immunization Branch that the Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) Program has expanded its formulary to include Serogroup B Meningococcal (MenB) vaccine. With the expansion of the formulary, MenB will be routinely available for all TVFC providers. It is imperative that each provider plan to order the MenB vaccine and incorporate the administration as appropriate. Please note that currently there is a 50 dose ordering limitation placed on this vaccine.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended use of MenB vaccines among certain groups of individuals aged  $\geq 10$  years of age who are at increased risk for serogroup B meningococcal disease. Individuals at risk include:

- Individuals with persistent complement component deficiencies;
- Individuals with anatomic or functional asplenia, including sickle cell disease; and
- Individuals identified to be at increased risk because of a serogroup B meningococcal disease outbreak.

The ACIP voted to recommend that decisions to vaccinate adolescents and young adults aged 16 through 23 years of age against serogroup B meningococcal disease should be made at the discretion of the administering provider. The preferable vaccine administration age of MenB is 16 through 18 years of age. While the ACIP recommendation is for individuals 16 through 23 years of age, the MenB vaccine offered by the TVFC Program must be administered to eligible individuals 16 through 18 years of age only. The Adult Safety Net Program does not currently offer the MenB vaccine.

The MenB vaccine should be administered as either a 2-dose series of MenB-4C (Bexsero<sup>®</sup>) or a 3-dose series of MenB-FHbp (Trumenba<sup>®</sup>). The same vaccine series should always be used for all doses administered, as the two available vaccines are not interchangeable. Please note, the ACIP does not recommend the routine use of MenB vaccines in place of routine adolescent vaccination with quadrivalent meningococcal vaccines.

Thank you for your continued support of the TVFC Program. Contact your DSHS Regional Office or Local Health Department if you have additional questions and or concerns. Visit the TVFC website at [www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/tvfc/](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/tvfc/) for the latest TVFC Program news, policy updates and resources.

Sincerely,

  
Monica Gamez, Director  
Infectious Disease Control (IDC) Unit