



## **Topple Meningococcal: A Vaccine Education Campaign**

Texas DSHS created Topple Meningococcal: A Vaccine Education Campaign to inform Texas providers, schools, and citizens about the dangers of the meningococcal disease infection. The goal of this project is to increase the coverage rates of all recommended meningococcal vaccines among 16 to 18-year-olds.

[Meningococcal disease](#) refers to any illness caused by bacteria called *Neisseria meningitidis*. These illnesses may include brain, spinal cord (meningitis), and bloodstream infections. It is not common in the United States, but teens and young adults are at a higher risk of contracting this disease. In 2022, there were 15 cases of meningococcal disease, including two deaths, in Texas.

As part of the Topple Meningococcal campaign, DSHS recently conducted a training in Laredo, Texas for employees at the Laredo Job Corps. Topics discussed in the training included:

- Overview of meningococcal disease and vaccines
- Texas Immunization Registry (ImmTrac2) and registration
- Vaccination sites within the local area
- Benefits and eligibility criteria for the Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) and Adult Safety Net (ASN) programs

[Texas Administrative Code \(§97.63\)](#) states all students enrolling in seventh through twelfth grades must have one dose of the meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MenACWY) vaccine on or after the student turns 11. A different meningococcal (MenB) vaccine is available that can help protect against serogroup B.

Resources:

- Information on vaccine requirements and recommendations can be found on [dshs.texas.gov/immunizations/school/requirements](https://dshs.texas.gov/immunizations/school/requirements).
- Information on meningococcal disease can be found on [Meningococcal Disease | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/meningococcal/).

If you would like to request a training or presentation from the Topple Meningococcal Project, contact [imm.action@dshs.texas.gov](mailto:imm.action@dshs.texas.gov).



## Rotavirus



According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), cases of rotavirus disease may occur at any time; however, they are more common in the winter and spring.

The CDC recommends infants receive RotaTeq® (RV5) as a liquid form given in three doses at ages two, four, and six months of age or Rotarix® (RV1) given in two doses at ages two and fourth months of age.

People with certain medical conditions may need a modified dosage or a booster shot. If a person has not been previously vaccinated, catch-up doses of the vaccine are safe and recommended.

To learn more about the rotavirus vaccine, visit the CDC website: [Rotavirus Vaccine | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/rotavirus/).



## National Infant Immunization Week

The Centers for Disease Center and Prevention (CDC) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) hosted [National Infant Immunization Week \(NIIW\)](https://www.cdc.gov/niiw/) on April 22-29. NIIW highlighted the importance of protecting children two years and younger from vaccine-preventable diseases (VPD).

Additional resource: [Birth – 18 Years Immunization Schedule](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz/downloads/pdf/051817a.pdf)

# Perinatal Hepatitis B: Safeguarding the New Generation

Pregnant women are encouraged to get tested for [hepatitis B](#) as part of their prenatal care. Hepatitis B can be easily passed from a pregnant woman to her newborn at birth. Learn more about perinatal hepatitis B during the hybrid [Texas Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program Summit](#), May 23 – 24, 2024, in Houston, Tx. Registrants must choose to participate in the conference either in-person or online. Attendance is free.

Note: The Salesforce training sessions are only available to in-person attendees and require a computer to participate. This in-depth training is tailored to familiarize attendees with the functionalities of Salesforce, so attendees can efficiently monitor and track the progress of hepatitis B-positive women, infants, and contacts who are less than or equal to 24 months old.

## **Hotel Information:**

[Royal Sonesta Houston](#)

Address: 2222 West Loop South, Houston, TX 77027

Phone: (713) 627-7600

Room Rate: \$122+ per night