



To: Practice Managers & General Practitioners

05 September 2016
PHE Gateway number: 2016-265

Dear colleague,

REMINDER – Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY) immunisation of school year 13s and older freshers in general practice.

Year 13 school leavers in the 2015/16 and 2014/15 school years:

Since April 2016, current school year 13 students (DOB 01/09/1997 – 31/08/1998) are eligible to receive the MenACWY vaccination through general practice. Practices should operate an active call and re-call service under the [NHS England Enhanced Service \(ES\) Specification](http://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/wp-content/uploads/sites/12/2016/04/MenACWY-2016-17.pdf) (www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/wp-content/uploads/sites/12/2016/04/MenACWY-2016-17.pdf). Vaccination should preferably occur before the start of the 2016/17 academic year.

Additionally, under the same ES, practices should also offer to vaccinate last year's year 13s (DOB 01/09/1996 – 31/08/1997) on an opportunistic basis if they have not yet been vaccinated.

First time university entrants up to 25 years

Older university freshers up to 25 years (01/09/1991 – 31/08/1997) who are due to start at university this Autumn and who have not already received MenACWY vaccination, should be offered MenACWY vaccination opportunistically when they present at the surgery.

Further information and resources

Further information and the timelines for the implementation of the full MenACWY programme can be found in the original 2015 letter announcing the programme at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/menacwy-vaccine-introduction

An explanation of the eligibility for GP based programmes for meningococcal vaccines for 2016/17 can be found in the [April edition of Vaccine Update](#).

Further details and resources for the MenACWY vaccination programme can be found at - www.gov.uk/government/collections/meningococcal-acwy-menacwy-vaccination-programme

A template letter for surgeries to use to invite patients in for MenACWY vaccination is also available - www.gov.uk/government/publications/menacwy-gp-invitation-letter-template

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joanne Yarwood". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Joanne Yarwood
National Immunisation Programme Manager,
Public Health England