



DATE: January 13, 2016

TO: Washington State Board of Health Members

FROM: Diana T. Yu, MD, MSPH

SUBJECT: MENINGOCOCCAL VACCINE TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

Background and Summary:

According to statute (RCW 28A.210.080, 28A. 210.100, and 28A.210.140), the Board has the authority to adopt rules on proof of immunizations for school and day care attendance and adopt rules that establish requirements for “full immunization.” The Board’s rules pertaining to child care and school children’s vaccinations are contained in Chapter 246-105 WAC, Immunization of Child Care and School Children against Certain Vaccine-Preventable Diseases. The immunization rule lists the vaccine preventable diseases children entering child care or school need to be protected against.

On June 14, 2006, the Board adopted assumptions, a process, an ethical framework, and criteria to apply to potential vaccine candidates. On August 12, 2015 the Board heard testimony from Lori Buher, Board member of the National Meningitis Association, and mother of a son who contracted meningitis. Ms. Buher requested that the Board convene a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) to evaluate the meningococcal vaccine for possible inclusion in school immunization requirements. On August 12, 2015, the Board directed staff to convene a meningococcal vaccine TAG.

On December 8, 2015, the TAG met and applied the Board’s immunization criteria to the meningococcal vaccine. Today we will share the recommendations of the TAG for your consideration. Michele Roberts, Immunization program director from the Department of Health will present a summary of the discussion of the TAG.

Recommended Board Action:

***Motion1:** The Board accepts the recommendations of the Meningococcal Technical Advisory Group not to add meningitis to the list of vaccine preventable diseases included in Chapter 246-105 WAC.*

***Motion2:** The Board asks staff to convene an advisory committee to review the Board’s 2006 immunization criteria and make recommendations to the Board on potential revisions.*

Staff Contact: Tara Wolff