



## RESIDENCE LIFE VACCINATION FORM

*This form must be completed prior to a resident moving on campus*

### VERIFICATION OF VACCINATION

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID or Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature (if student under 18 years of age): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I received the meningococcal vaccine on \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

Name of Provider (or attached copy of meningococcal vaccine verification): \_\_\_\_\_

Provider phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Address of provider: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Provider (or attached copy of meningococcal vaccine verification): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### WAIVER FOR THE MENINGOCOCCAL VACCINATION

**DO NOT FILL OUT THIS PORTION IF YOU FILLED OUT THE MENINGOCOCCAL VERIFICATION ABOVE.**

I have received and review the information provided on the risks of the meningococcal disease and the risks and benefits of the meningococcal vaccine. After reviewing the below materials on the dangers of the meningococcal disease, I choose to waive the receipt of the meningococcal vaccine.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID or Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature (if student under 18 years of age): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### MENINGITIS HEALTH INFORMATION FACTS

In accordance with the Kansas Board of Regents Meningitis Vaccination Policy enacted on September 15, 2005, all students residing in Dodge City Community College Residence Life campus housing are required (by Kansas law) to receive the meningitis vaccination. Students must either provide written documentation of immunization or sign a waiver (after reviewing the following information that informs of the dangers of meningococcal disease) that indicates that the vaccine has been declined. If a student is less than 18 years of age, a parent or legal guardian must be given a copy of this document and must sign the waiver as well. **All students are encouraged to receive a vaccination at their home location from either their own physician/health care provider or a local health department prior to traveling to the Dodge City Community College Campus.** The vaccine is also available (but in limited numbers) from the Ford County Health Department, located at 106 E. Spruce in Dodge City, KS 620-227-4545.

**Non-compliant students** will be placed on a Dean's Administrative Hold following the second week of classes and remain on Administrative Hold until the compliance is documented with the Residence Life office. Students will be unable to enroll for the following semester until the Dean's Hold is released.

## *Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)*

### **What is meningococcal meningitis?**

Meningococcal meningitis is a severe bacterial infection of the bloodstream and meninges (a thin lining covering the brain and spinal cord). It is a relatively rare disease and usually occurs as a single isolated event.

### **How is the germ that causes this type of meningitis spread?**

The meningococcus germ is spread by direct close contact (kissing, sneezing, coughing, **sharing water bottles**) with the nose or throat discharges of an infected person. Many people may carry this particular germ in their nose and throat without any signs of illness.

### **Who gets meningococcal meningitis?**

Anyone can get meningococcal meningitis, but it is more common in infants, children and young adults. *College freshmen and athletes who live in student housing have a slightly higher risk of getting this infection than others their age.*

### **What are the symptoms?**

Most individuals exposed to the meningococcus germ do not become seriously ill. They often develop a fever, headache, vomiting, stiff neck and rash. However, one fourth of those who recover may have permanent damage to the nervous system. The disease can occasionally cause death.

### **How soon do the symptoms appear?**

After exposure, the symptoms will appear within two to ten days, but generally within five days.

### **When and for how long is an infected person able to spread the disease?**

From the time a person is first infected until the germ is no longer present in nose and throat discharge the disease may be transmitted. The duration varies according to individuals and treatment course followed.

### **What is the treatment for meningococcal meningitis?**

Penicillin is the drug of choice for treatment, although other antibiotics are very effective in eliminating the germ from the nose and mouth.

### **Should people who have been in contact with a diagnosed case of meningococcal meningitis be treated?**

Only people who have been in close contact (household members, intimate contacts, etc) need to be considered for preventive treatment. Casual contact such as might occur in a regular classroom or office setting is not usually significant enough to cause concern. People who think they have been exposed to meningococcal infection should contact the local health department to discuss whether treatment is advised.

### **Is there a vaccine to prevent meningococcal meningitis?**

Presently, there are two vaccines that will protect against several of the strains of the meningococcal germ.

### **Is the meningococcal vaccine safe?**

Vaccines, like any medicine, are capable of causing problems such as allergic reactions. The risks associated with receiving the vaccine are much less significant than the risks that are associated with the disease. Some individuals may experience mild side effects which include redness or pain at the vaccine site, warm to touch, and mild fever.

### **Where can a student get vaccinated?**

They are provided at local physician or healthcare provider offices or local health departments.

### **Where can more information be obtained?**

- Your personal physician or healthcare provider
- Your Hometown Local Health department
- Ford County Health Dept. (106 E Spruce, Dodge City, KS) 620-227-4545
- The Center for Disease Control (CDC): [http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dbmd/diseaseinfo/meningococcal\\_g.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dbmd/diseaseinfo/meningococcal_g.htm)
- Kansas Department of Health and Environment: <http://www.kdheks.gov/pdf/hef/ab1037.pdf>