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HEALTH ADVISORY

DECEMBER 3, 2012

New York City Health Department Expands Recommendations for Meningococcal Vaccine for Certain Men Who Have Sex with Men

The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYC-DOHMH) continues to identify new cases of invasive meningococcal disease among men who have sex with men (MSM) in NYC. Because all cases have been meningococcal serogroup C, which is present in the meningococcal vaccine, NYC-DOHMH is expanding their recommendations to vaccinate certain higher risk groups of MSM. The NYC advisory can be reviewed at: <https://a816-health29ssl.nyc.gov/sites/NYCHAN/WebPages/home.aspx>

As of December 3, 2012, there has been no outbreak of invasive meningococcal disease among MSM or other residents of San Francisco. While meningococcal vaccination is not routinely recommended for MSM or people with HIV except under particular circumstances, it is recommended for travel to places with ongoing outbreaks of meningococcal disease, and therefore SFDPH would like San Francisco clinicians who provide care for MSM to be aware of current vaccination recommendations from NYC-DOHMH.

Actions requested of SF clinicians who provide care for MSM:

1. Be aware of the following NYC-DOHMH Recommendations (11/29/12):
 - a. Meningococcal vaccine should be offered to HIV-infected men who are New York City residents **AND** who report or plan to have intimate contact with a man met either through an online website, digital application ("app"), or at a bar or party since September 1, 2012.
 - b. Meningococcal vaccine should now also be offered to MSM, regardless of HIV status, if they live in specific areas of Brooklyn (Bedford Stuyvesant, Brownsville, Bushwick, Clinton Hill, Crown Heights, Downtown, Dumbo, East New York, Prospect Heights and Williamsburg) and report or plan to have intimate contact with a man met either through an online website, digital application ("app"), or at a bar or party since September 1, 2012.
2. Consider meningococcal vaccination for MSM, especially those with HIV, if their recent travel (since Sept. 1, 2012) included close or intimate contact with MSM in NYC, or if their travel plans include visiting NYC with an expectation of close or intimate contact with MSM in NYC.
3. Report all San Francisco residents with suspected and confirmed meningococcal disease to the Communicable Disease Control Unit of SFDPH at (415) 554-2830. After hours press "1" and "1" again to page the on call physician.

Additional Resources:

NYC: Health Alerts: <https://a816-health29ssl.nyc.gov/sites/NYCHAN/WebPages/home.aspx>

Provider FAQ's - meningococcal vaccine: nyc.gov/html/doh/downloads/pdf/cd/mening-provider-faq.pdf

Patient Fact Sheet: nyc.gov/html/doh/downloads/pdf/cd/2012/meningitis-patient-factsheet.pdf

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

Meningococcal Disease Information page: cdc.gov/meningococcal/index.html

Meningococcal Vaccine Information Statement (VIS): cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/downloads/vis-mening.pdf