

EVERGREEN

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Dear Parent or Guardian:

By law (RCW 28A.210.080), we must tell you where you can get information about human papillomavirus (HPV) and Meningococcal Disease.

Human Papillomavirus (HPV)

What is HPV? HPV is a common sexually transmitted virus that can cause cancers later in life. Nearly 42 million people are currently infected with HPV in the United States. In the U.S., an estimated 36,000 people are affected by a cancer caused by HPV infection each year.

To learn more about HPV, cancer prevention, and the HPV vaccine visit • Washington State Department of Health

<https://doh.wa.gov/you-and-your-family/illness-and-disease-z/human-papillomavirus-hpv/> • Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

https://www.cdc.gov/sti/?CDC_AAret_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/std/hpv/

Meningococcal Disease and Prevention

What is meningococcal disease? Meningococcal disease is a serious illness. It spreads through close contact by coughing, kissing, or sharing anything by mouth, such as water bottles, eating utensils, lip balm, or toothbrushes. It can cause pneumonia, blood infections, and meningitis (swelling of the covering of the brain and spinal cord). Severe disease can cause brain damage, loss of hearing or limbs, and death. Fortunately, this life-threatening infection is rare- we usually have only about 20 to 30 reported cases each year in Washington. Adolescents and young adults are more likely to get meningococcal disease, especially if they live in group settings like college dorms.

How can I protect my child from meningococcal disease?

The meningococcal conjugate vaccine, or MCV4, protects against four types of the disease. It is a 2-dose series recommended for all children between 11 and 12 years of age, and again at 16 to 18 years of age. The meningococcal B vaccine is recommended during a meningococcal B disease outbreak or based on shared decision making with your health care provider.

For more information about meningococcal disease and how to prevent it:

• Washington State Department of Health meningococcal information:
<https://doh.wa.gov/you-and-your-family/illness-and-disease-z/meningitis-meningococcal-disease>

Where can I find the meningococcal and HPV vaccines?

Talk to your healthcare provider about the vaccines your child needs. Washington offers vaccines at no cost to kids through age 18 through the Childhood Vaccine Program. Participating providers may charge an office visit fee or administration fee to give the vaccine. If you can't afford these fees, you can ask to have them waived. This provider map can be used to find providers in the Childhood Vaccine Program: <https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/vaccinemap/>

The HPV vaccine and the Meningococcal Conjugate vaccine are not required for school attendance.

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