



Health, Housing & Community Services Department
Public Health Division
(510) 981-5300

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Health Officer

Health Alert

March 20, 2015

Meningococcal outbreak at University of Oregon

Please distribute to all providers in your practice

Current Situation

Six cases of serogroup B meningococcal disease have been reported among University of Oregon students with onsets during January 13 – March 15, 2015. The outbreak is considered ongoing. Most of the cases involved meningococcemia rather than meningitis, and many presented initially with nonspecific symptoms. Because many students will be home or traveling during Spring Break March 20–29, the Oregon Health Authority is alerting California health jurisdictions.

Recommendations:

- Suspect meningococcal disease in University of Oregon students who present for acute medical care.
- **IMMEDIATELY REPORT suspect** meningococcal cases to Berkeley Public Health by calling 510-981-5300. **Do not wait for lab confirmation to call us.** After hours, or if you do not reach us at that number, the Public Health Officer can be reached at 510-981-5911 (Berkeley Police Dispatch).

Additional Information:

- On October 29, 2014, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) licensed the first serogroup B meningococcal vaccine ([Trumenba®](#)). FDA approved this vaccine for use in people 10-25 years of age as a 3-dose series.
- On January 23, 2015, FDA licensed a second serogroup B meningococcal vaccine ([Bexsero®](#)). FDA approved this vaccine for use in people 10-25 years of age as a 2-dose series. While there is no routine recommendation for serogroup B meningococcal vaccines at this time, physicians can use these vaccines for people 10-25 years of age consistent with the labeled indication.

Sources for Information:

- Center for Disease Control (CDC) [Meningococcal | Home | CDC](#)
- City of Berkeley Public Health Division: <http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/publichealth>
- California Department of Public Health (CDPH): [Meningococcal Disease](#)

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