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Subject: FW: Meningococcal B vaccination - England only

Date: 3 September 2015 14:40

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From: KDay@bma.org.uk [mailto:KDay@bma.org.uk]

Sent: 03 September 2015 14:38

Cc: COhman@bma.org.uk

Subject: Meningococcal B vaccination - England only

Dear LMC

Meningococcal B vaccination

As from 1 September 2015 the Men B vaccination has been added to the Childhood Immunisation Programme in England.

The programme is for all infants born on or after 1 July 2015, and consists of three doses at 2, 4 and 12 to 13 months, with a catch-up element for children born on or after 1 May 2015, who can be vaccinated up to 2 years on an opportunistic basis.

JCVI has recommend three doses of prophylactic paracetamol (2.5ml of infant paracetamol 120mg/5ml suspension) following the vaccinations at 2 and 4 months. 5 ml sachets and dosing syringes are available to order via ImmForm.

We are aware that many practices have been asked by parents to provide this vaccine privately to children outside the cohort. Although practices would be able to offer this on private script they would not be able to claim the cost of the vaccine, nor would they be able to charge the patient for providing it (as per Schedule 5 of GMS Regulations 2004 which lists the limited circumstances in which GPs may charge fees for providing treatment to their NHS patients). We would recommend that practices advise their patients requesting this to attend another practice, who are then able to charge for providing the vaccine.

Further information about the meningococcal vaccine, including a protocol for healthcare professionals for Men B and paracetamol use is available on the Public Health England website.

The service specification for this vaccination is available on NHS England website and Vaccine <u>update</u> also has some useful information, including a parent information leaflet.

General information about all the vaccination programmes is available on the BMA website vaccinations

pages.

If you have any questions please contact Cat Ohman on Cohman@bma.org.uk

Regards

Karen Day Division Secretarial Assistant NHS GPs Primary Care Division

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