

If your child only had **ONE**, they may **NOT BE DONE!**

Effective August 1, 2020, a booster dose to protect against meningococcal disease is required for adolescents entering the 12th grade or by 17 years of age, whichever comes first.



Ensure your child is protected against meningococcal disease and ready for school.

Ask your local health department or your child's immunizing physician if they are properly protected, or if a booster vaccine is needed.

***If the first dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine is administered on or after the 16th birthday, the booster dose is not required. ***

- The meningococcal conjugate vaccine protects against meningococcal disease, an uncommon, but dangerous infection that often strikes without warning. About 1 of every 10 people who gets the disease dies from it.
- The meningococcal vaccine is effective at preventing infection from four common types of meningococcal disease in the United States.
- The bacteria that cause this infection can spread when people have close or lengthy contact with someone's saliva, such as through kissing or coughing, sharing drinking cups or utensils, especially if they are living in the same place. Teens and young adults are at increased risk for meningococcal disease.
- **Meningococcal disease can become very serious, very quickly. The meningococcal vaccine is the best way to protect teens from getting meningococcal disease.**



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Public Health