



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**

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Division of Public Health

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** North Carolina Immunization Program (NCIP) Participants

**FROM:** Wendy Holmes, R.N., Head *WH*  
Immunization Branch

**DATE:** July 16, 2020

**SUBJECT:** August 2020 Rule Change Preparation

The purpose of this memo is to remind North Carolina Immunization Program (NCIP) participants of the upcoming immunization rule change which requires adolescents receive a booster dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine ACWY (MCV4) prior to entering the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, or by 17 years of age, whichever comes first. The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) urge all providers to continue working towards maintaining routine childhood and adolescent immunizations. NC DHHS will continue to work in collaboration with the NC State Board of Education and the NC Department of Public Instruction to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and address the educational, nutritional, and child care needs of students, including any potential changes that may impact immunization requirements.

This rule change is effective August 1, 2020, and does not apply to individuals that received their first dose on or after the 16<sup>th</sup> birthday. As a reminder, G.S. 130A-155(a) states that no child shall attend a school (pre K-12), whether public, private or religious, unless a certificate of immunization indicating that the child has received the immunizations required by G.S. 130A-152 is presented to the school or facility. Anyone who is not age-appropriately vaccinated on the first day of attendance shall have 30 calendar days to obtain the required immunizations. Upon termination of 30 calendar days, the child shall be excluded from school unless the required immunizations have been obtained.

To assist providers in preparing for this new immunization requirement, it is recommended that staff assess their current MCV4 inventory and previous usages. Providers must order and maintain enough MCV4 to vaccinate clients in need of the first dose of MCV4 that is required for 7<sup>th</sup> grade entry and the booster dose required for rising 12<sup>th</sup> graders. To assist with this, providers are encouraged to utilize the North Carolina Immunization Registry (NCIR) and any other available tools to determine how many rising 7<sup>th</sup> graders and 12<sup>th</sup> graders have not met the 2020 immunization requirements. Instructions on how to run the NCIR Benchmark Report and Request Reminder Report accompanies this memo. For additional assistance in running these reports, please contact your Regional Immunization Consultant, whose contact information can be found [here](#).

The North Carolina Immunization Branch website is an excellent resource for additional information on this rule change. Resources for providers and parents can be found at the following site:

<https://immunize.nc.gov/schools/resourcesforschools.htm#K7IR>.

**NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, IMMUNIZATION BRANCH**

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For additional questions regarding the new vaccine requirements please contact the Immunization Branch On-Call Nurse at 919-707-5550. We appreciate your attention to this matter and your support in ensuring that students have a healthy start to their 2020-2021 school year.

## Guidelines for using the NCIR to prepare for the 8/1/20 MCV Booster Requirement

### **NCIR Benchmark Report**

The NCIR Benchmark Report can be used to assess both rising 7<sup>th</sup> graders and 12<sup>th</sup> graders. To determine the number of rising 7<sup>th</sup> graders that have not yet obtained the required one dose of MCV4, please follow the instructions listed below.

1. After logging into the NCIR, select “**Benchmark Report**” on the left panel under “**Reports**”.
2. Define your report criteria. Select your client population, followed by “**Clients who did NOT meet the benchmark**”. Next, enter the birth date range of “**09/01/2007 – 8/31/2008**”. Select the “**Standard Assessment**” and set the evaluation date as the current date.
3. Select your Benchmark criteria under the **Adolescent/Adult Benchmarks** table. In the adolescent row, select the cell for **one dose of Meningo**, and hit “**Generate**”.

Adolescent/Adult Benchmarks							
	Hep B	HPV	Meningo	MMR	Pertussis	Td	Varicella
Adolescent	COMPLETE	1	1	2	1	UTD	2
Adolescent Complete	COMPLETE	3	1	2	1	UTD	2
	Hep B	Influenza		Pneumo-Poly	Td	Zoster	
Adult	COMPLETE	UTD		COMPLETE	UTD	1	

4. Within the Benchmark Report Status box, select “**Refresh**” to check the status of your report. When your report is completed, click on the blue link to take you to the results.
5. At the top of the report page, a list of conditions and details are provided. Beneath these details is a patient-specific list of clients in need of MCV4. In the example below, there are 927 clients that were born in the specified time frame that are served by the selected provider. 589 (64%) have received the required one dose of MCV4. Providers should plan to order and maintain enough MCV4 stock to vaccinate not only these remaining 7<sup>th</sup> graders, but also rising 12<sup>th</sup> graders in need of the required booster dose.

Filter conditions used for this report:
Clients Associated with Provider:
Clients who did NOT meet the selected benchmark(s)
Just consider immunizations as meeting the benchmark
Birth date between 09/01/2007 and 08/31/2008
Evaluation date: 06/01/2020
Adolescent Benchmark
Selected benchmarks: Meningo (1)
Total clients: 927; 589 clients (64%) met all benchmark criteria, 338 clients did not
Late up-to-date: 589 clients (64%) met all benchmark criteria as of report generated date, 338 clients did not

6. To use this report to assess the number of rising 12<sup>th</sup> graders, the report details will need to be modified to reflect a different birth cohort. For rising 12<sup>th</sup> graders, the birth date range should be, **"09/01/2002 – 08/31/2003"**. Data from this report can be used to provide an estimate of the number of rising 12<sup>th</sup> graders potentially in need of the MCV4 booster dose for the 2020-2021 school year. This data can also be exported into a spreadsheet for additional analysis by using the link at the top of the report details. Taking these steps can help ensure an adequate supply of MCV4 is on hand to vaccinate clients at risk of being excluded from school.

### **NCIR Request Reminder**

This report can also be used to identify clients in need of the required MCV4 dose(s). To run this report, follow the instructions listed below:

1. Select **"Request Reminder"** from the left panel under **"Reports"**.
2. Select the **"Tracking Schedule Associated with Each Client"** option.
3. Select **"Meningo"** as the vaccine group.
4. For rising 7<sup>th</sup> graders, enter a birth date range of **"09/01/2007 – 08/31/2008"**. For rising 12<sup>th</sup> graders, enter a birth date range of **"09/01/2002-08/31/2003"**.
5. Hit **"Generate"**.

When this report is ready, click on the **Client Query Listing** (listed under the Reminder Request Output Options Table) for a list of all clients in need of MCV4. The **Reminder Letter** is a customizable letter that can be mailed to each client in need of MCV4 to remind them that they are overdue. The **Mailing Labels** can be used in conjunction with the reminder letter.

For additional questions related to these NCIR reports, please contact your Regional Immunization Consultant (RIC). RIC contact information can be found [here](#).