



CDPH Meningococcal Disease Webinar for Health Care Providers

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

February 11, 2026

Transmission and Infection, Prevention, & Control

- 1. Q: Have any new cases been identified? We had one of the positive NM cases, he was from home, no s/s of disease, only blood culture positive after patient expired.**

A: As of February 13, a total of 10 cases of invasive meningococcal disease have been identified thus far in 2026.

Vaccination

- 2. Q: Emergency Department leadership team inquired if CDPH is keeping track of who is being vaccinated, and if we administer the vaccine to a patient, whom or where do we report the information? Additionally, regarding the robustness of the vaccine stock immediately available, is it limited?**

A: CDPH tracks who has been vaccinated in I-CARE, Illinois' Immunization Registry System: [Welcome to I-CARE](#). Chicago providers should ensure administered immunizations are entered into I-CARE. Most EMRs are set up to link immunization records directly into I-CARE.

CDPH has meningococcal vaccine supply for people experiencing homelessness and uninsured/underinsured adults for this outbreak. Pediatric vaccine is available for VFC-eligible children through the [Chicago VFC Program](#). To inquiry about these CDPH doses, please contact kevin.hansen@cityofchicago.org

Providers should be able to procure meningococcal ACWY vaccine in the private market for children with private insurance and adults with private insurance, Medicare, or Medicaid insurance. These forms of insurance should reimburse for the cost of the vaccine and administration.

- 3. Q: Why does giving another dose before 8 weeks make the doses invalid?**

A: Most vaccines have specific periods of time between doses as to not interfere with the immunization process and make sure both doses are effective. For meningococcal vaccine, the period of time between doses needs to be at least 8 weeks.

4. Q: Will CDPH be providing vaccines for shelter providers and residents at all locations?

A: CDPH has begun meningococcal vaccination in the city's shelter system in late January. Shelters with cases have been prioritized as well as shelters that have recently received residents from the shelters with cases. CDPH has also been supplying meningococcal vaccine to providers working in shelters and with the people experiencing homelessness community at large. If you are a provider that serves this population and needs meningococcal vaccine supply, please reach out to: kevin.hansen@cityofchicago.org.

5. Q: If someone accidentally gets a second dose does that invalidate the doses given? What do we do?

A: If someone accidentally gets a second dose within 8 weeks, the first dose is still valid, but the second dose would be invalid. If the patient actually needs 2 doses 8-weeks apart for a certain indication, then another 2nd dose should be given at least 8 weeks after the invalid 2nd dose.