Subject: Meningococcal Vaccine*

Updated: October 27, 2009

Department(s): Utilization Management

Policy: Vaccination against meningococcus is reimbursable under Plans administered by QualCare, Inc.

Objective: To assure proper and consistent reimbursement and to define circumstances under which a specific vaccine will be covered.

Procedure:

1. Reimbursable indications for meningococcal vaccine (conjugate CPT 90734 or polysaccharide CPT 90733 if conjugate vaccine is not available) include, but are not limited to, the following:
   
a. Functional or anatomic absence of the spleen, as early as age 2 years
b. Terminal complement component deficiency, as early as age 2 years
c. Adolescents beginning at age 11 years: a single dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine
d. Residence in a college dormitory/residence hall or the equivalent if not previously vaccinated with meningococcal vaccine
2. The following indications for meningococcal vaccine are not reimbursable under Plans administered by QualCare, Inc.: 

   a. Travel to a meningococcus-endemic area 
   b. Employment in a setting in which exposure to meningococcus-containing fluids routinely occurs (e.g., research, industrial, or clinical laboratories) 

3. Any other indication for initial meningococcal vaccination must be reviewed by the Medical Director. 

4. If an indication for meningococcal immunization is still present, re-immunization with meningococcal vaccine is reimbursable if at least three years have elapsed since the initial dose. 

5. Because of variations among benefit designs, the Summary Plan Description (SPD) must be consulted prior to any authorization of meningococcal vaccine. 

References 


Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Recommendation from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) for Use of Quadrivalent Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine (MCV4) in Children Aged 2--10 Years at Increased Risk for Invasive Meningococcal Disease. *MMWR* 2007;56(48):1265-1266 (Dec 7)


Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Prevention and control of Meningococcal Disease and Meningococcal Disease and College Students: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). *MMWR* 2000;49(RR-7):1-20 (June 30)


*Consistent with Summary Plan Description (SPD) If there is discordance with the SPD, provisions of the SPD take precedence.*