



Subject: Meningococcal Vaccine*

Effective Date: October 27, 2000

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 11-12 years: a single dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine with a booster at age 16 years; and if the first dose is age 13 -15 years, a booster dose 3 years later.
 - d. Residence in a college dormitory/residence hall or the equivalent if not previously vaccinated with meningococcal vaccine
 - e. Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (CPT 90734) for children aged 2 months through 10 years with functional or anatomic asplenia, including sickle cell anemia, persistent complement deficiency, and members of a defined risk group during a community or institutional meningococcal outbreak.
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

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Drafted By/Date: G. Chowdhary, MD 09/11/00
Approved By/Date: QM Committee 10/27/00
Revised By/Date: B. Fisher, MD 05/24/04
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Revised By/Date: B. Fisher, MD 07/05/07
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Revised By/Date: B. Fisher, MD 08/12/09
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Revised By/Date: M. McNeil, MD 11/21/11
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Revised By/Date: M. McNeil, MD 11/26/13
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*Consistent with Summary Plan Description (SPD). When there is discordance between this policy and the SPD, the provisions of the SPD prevail.