

Td/IPV and MenACWY VACCINATIONS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What vaccines are being offered and why?

Revaxis is a combined vaccine that protects against tetanus, diphtheria, and polio (Td/IPV). Provided that your child has had all the previous scheduled doses against these three illnesses, this booster will give long term protection against these serious infections.

A dose of Nimenrix or Menveo protects against four strains of meningitis (MenACWY) and is advised for all teenagers, as they are at higher risk of contracting Meningitis C and W.

Who should not have these vaccines?

Very few people cannot have these vaccines. Only those with a severe allergic (anaphylactic) reaction to a previous dose or to any of the ingredients of the vaccines (please see the links below).

Nimenrix: <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/4118>

Menveo: <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/2939>

Revaxis: <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/5581>

If your child has a bleeding disorder, a history of convulsions (fits) or has a weakened immune system, we may need to ask for more details before vaccination.

Vaccination is postponed if someone is unwell on the day with a feverish illness. Minor illnesses e.g. colds without fever do not prevent vaccination.

What are the potential side effects following vaccination?

Following vaccination the young person may experience fever, aches, headache, nausea or tiredness. This is an expected immune response which can be treated with paracetamol or ibuprofen (never aspirin for under-16s); always follow the directions on the packet. It's common to get some swelling, redness or tenderness at the injection site. Sometimes a small painless lump develops, but this usually disappears in a few weeks. Any other side effects are unusual. If you're worried about any reaction, you can call the NHS 111 service. Please inform us or your GP if your child has any side effects other than those listed above following vaccination.

I consented last year and my child missed the vaccination in school, what happens now?

If your child in year 10 or above has not since attended one of our community catch up clinics for these vaccinations, please be aware that as you consented to these, and your child did not receive them within the same school year, we will hold your consent on record and offer these vaccinations to them in subsequent school years. This is referred to as 'out of cohort vaccinations'.

You will be contacted prior to the out of cohort vaccinations being offered in school, unless you have contacted us to change your consent to no.

If you consented no, you can contact us to change your consent to a yes at any time.

Tips for vaccination day - Wear clothes that would allow the nurses to access the top of the arm, such as a short-sleeved shirt/T shirt. They should have breakfast as usual and ensure that they have plenty to drink throughout the day.

Can older students be vaccinated too?

Catch up is available in school or in one of our community clinics, for students in years 10 to 13 who have not yet received these vaccinations, by prior arrangement, with the Immunisation Service.

How will I know when my child has been vaccinated?

You will receive an email, usually within 24 hours, sent to the address you provide when completing the online form, advising you of the vaccination outcome. If your child was not vaccinated, following submission of a positive consent form, your email will advise of the reason for this and contain details of how to book into a clinic.

Links to vaccination resources:

[Why vaccination is safe and important - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

[Information for parents on the Td/IPV and MenACWY vaccination programme:](#)

[A guide to the 3 in 1 teenage booster \(Td/IPV\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[Protect yourself against meningitis and septicaemia - Have the MenACWY vaccine \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

What do I do if I cannot complete the online consent form?

Contact your local team in the Immunisation Service on the number provided, and complete a verbal consent with them, **before the closing date and time**.

What do I do if I missed the cut off date and the form is closed?

Your child's school are requested to send reminders out to parents prior to the cut-off date. One working day after the school session visit, you will be able to complete consent and book into a catch-up clinic online. Instructions on how to book an appointment will be emailed to you upon submission of a positive consent form. If you are unable to use the online booking system, please contact your local team on the number provided.

What do I do if I do not want my child to have these vaccinations?

To indicate that you do not give consent for one or more of these vaccinations, please complete the online consent form following the steps in the parent letter and answer 'no' to the consent question, for the vaccines you do not give your consent for. However, if your child approaches us requesting these vaccinations where you have indicated you do not consent, we will endeavour to have a conversation with you to discuss their options. Legally children under the age of 16 can consent to their own treatment if they demonstrate the competence and understanding to fully appreciate what's involved in their treatment.

What do I do if I have changed my mind after completing an online consent form?

You must phone the Immunisation Service to change your consent in addition to informing your child's school, in writing, prior to the vaccination session date.

Can I use the same school code for both my children?

No, the school code is unique to each individual school name and site. If you have more than one child, but they do not attend the exact same school site, please do not submit the consent form using the same code. You will receive a letter from each child's school containing their unique school code, approximately 4 weeks prior to the vaccination session date.

What does giving consent for SCFT staff to view my child's Digital Health Record mean?

It enables any SCFT Children's Services staff, who provide care for your child, to see information which has been shared out from the GP and other health organisations records, if they use compatible systems. We cannot view other organisations records without consent, except in exceptional circumstances. Access to your child's health record helps our services to make safe clinical decisions on the most appropriate treatment and care. For further information visit: <https://www.sussexcommunity.nhs.uk/contact-us/patient-records.htm>