



HAYWOOD COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

157 Paragon Parkway, Clyde, NC 28721-9481

Ira Dove, Agency Director

Public Health	828-452-6675	Social Services	828-452-6620
Dental Office	828-452-6701	Meals on Wheels	828-356-2442
Environmental Health	828-452-6682	Maple Leaf Adult Respite	828-456-9488

Subject: Immunization Requirement – Meningococcal Disease and Vaccine

Dear Parent or Guardian:

As a parent, there is nothing more important than safeguarding your child’s health. Meningitis is an infection of the protective membrane around a person’s spinal cord and brain. It can be caused by a viral or bacterial infection and can be very serious or potentially deadly. Symptoms can include fever, headache, stiff neck, nausea, vomiting, confusion, sleepiness, and light sensitivity.

Meningococcal disease is a serious bacterial infection. It can spread through contaminated air particles or close contact with an infected person. Meningococcal disease may lead to pneumonia, meningitis, and blood infections. Adolescents have an increased risk of contracting invasive meningococcal disease; however, it can be prevented by a vaccine.

Since July 2015, North Carolina has required all students to have one dose of the meningococcal vaccine before turning the age of 12 years old or entering the 7th grade, whichever comes first. Additionally, as of August 2020, a booster dose of meningococcal vaccine is required for students entering 12th grade or turning 17 years of age, whichever comes first. If the first dose of the vaccine was administered on or after the student’s 16th birthday, the booster will not be required.

Only you can ensure that your child is protected. To schedule a meningococcal vaccine at the Haywood County Health Department, call (828)452-6675 and dial “0”.

Thank you,

Sarah M. Henderson, MSN, RN, Public Health Services Division Director
Haywood County Health and Human Services Agency
157 Paragon Parkway
Clyde, NC 28721

To learn more about meningococcal disease and vaccine information:

- CDC Meningococcal Disease Information: www.cdc.gov/meningococcal
- National Meningitis Association: www.nmaus.org
- Adolescent Vaccine Information: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/teens
- Young Adult and Adult Vaccine Information: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/adults

“Enhancing the health, safety and full potential of our community”

Haywood County HHS is an equal opportunity provider and employer