

# Why Meningitis B Vaccination Matters

Presented by  
Patti Wukovits, RN and Alicia Stillman

# About Alicia and Patti



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Farmington Hills, Michigan



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Long Island, New York



**Five years ago, we each lost our daughters too soon to a now vaccine-preventable disease, Meningitis B, or MenB.**





PULL HERE  
ONLY  
IN CASE OF FIRE

and, for your legacy of  
support and service to all people,  
we thank you, Sam.

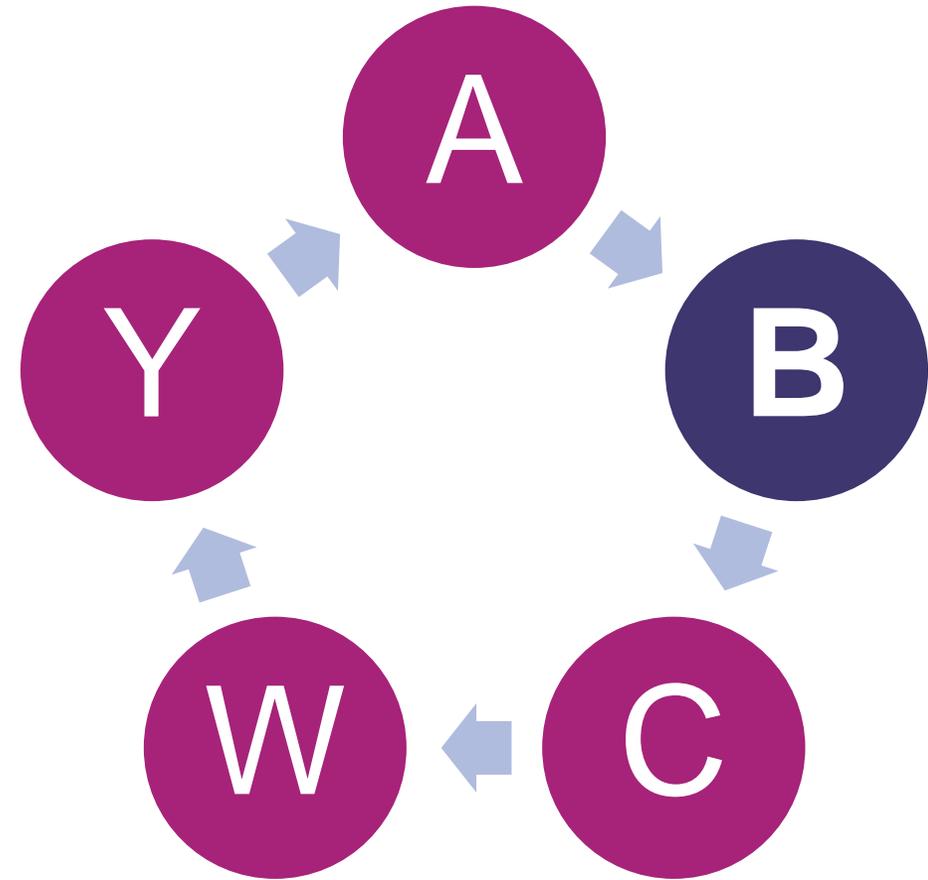
**We, like many parents, thought our girls were protected. But they weren't.**

Both had received the MenACWY vaccine, but the MenB vaccine was not yet available to help protect them from MenB. *It is today.*

# About Meningitis B

**Meningococcal disease is a life-threatening bacterial infection that can affect the lining of the brain and spinal cord, or it can cause an infection in the bloodstream - or both.**

**It is mainly caused by 5 types of meningococcal bacteria - ABCWY.**



# About Meningitis B

IT IS  
**EASY TO SPREAD**  
from person to person.

.....



sharing  
anything that  
comes in  
contact with  
**SALIVA**



being  
**SNEEZED**  
or coughed  
upon



being in  
**CLOSE**  
quarters



**KISSING**

It can attack without warning and  
**EARLY SYMPTOMS**  
can often be mistaken for the flu.

THEY INCLUDE:



HIGH FEVER



STIFF NECK



VOMITING



HEADACHE



EXHAUSTION



PURPLISH RASH



It can kill in a matter of hours. 1 in 10 will die.  
2 in 10 will face permanent complications, like limb loss or brain damage.



**So why does MenB  
vaccination matter?**

**We'll give you 5 reasons.**

1. If a person has not received BOTH the MenB and MenACWY vaccine, they are not fully immunized against meningitis.

**2** meningitis vaccines are necessary to help protect against the disease.

Most have received the MenACWY vaccine.

Few have received the MenB vaccine.



1. If a person has not received BOTH the MenB and MenACWY vaccine, they are not fully immunized against meningitis.

## About the Meningitis B Vaccines

### Available Vaccines

Trumenba (Oct. 2014, Pfizer)  
Bexsero (Jan. 2015, GSK)

### Why a Different Vaccine for MenB Only?

Serogroup B requires a different and a separate vaccine because of the way it attacks the bacterium.

### FDA Approval

Approved by the FDA for use in those 10-25

### How They Work

They are not interchangeable.

### Both Require a Two-Dose Series 2<sup>nd</sup> dose must be completed within:

Trumenba: 6 months of 1<sup>st</sup> dose  
Bexsero: at least 1 month of 1<sup>st</sup> dose

### CDC/ACIP Recommendations

ACIP has granted a permissive recommendation for ages 16-23, unless you are at high risk  
*(Leaves the decision up to the practitioner)*

1. If a person has not received BOTH the MenB and MenACWY vaccine, they are not fully immunized against meningitis.

**Why does the CDC advise that 11-12 yr. olds should receive the MenACWY vaccine and 16-23 yr. olds may receive the Men B vaccine?**

- ✓ Low incidence of disease
- ✓ High cost of routine vaccination
- ✓ Question about longevity of immunity
- ✓ There are many strains of serogroup B and we don't yet know which the vaccine is able to attack

## 2. Many physicians are not talking to their patients about it.

**PEDIATRICS**<sup>®</sup>  
OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

According to a study published in *Pediatrics* in August 2018, among 900 doctors surveyed:

**49%** of pediatricians and  
**69%** of family physicians  
**did not discuss the MenB  
vaccine during routine visits  
for 16-18 year olds.**

**As a result:**

**Less than 10% of 16-18 year olds have received at least one dose of the MenB vaccine.**

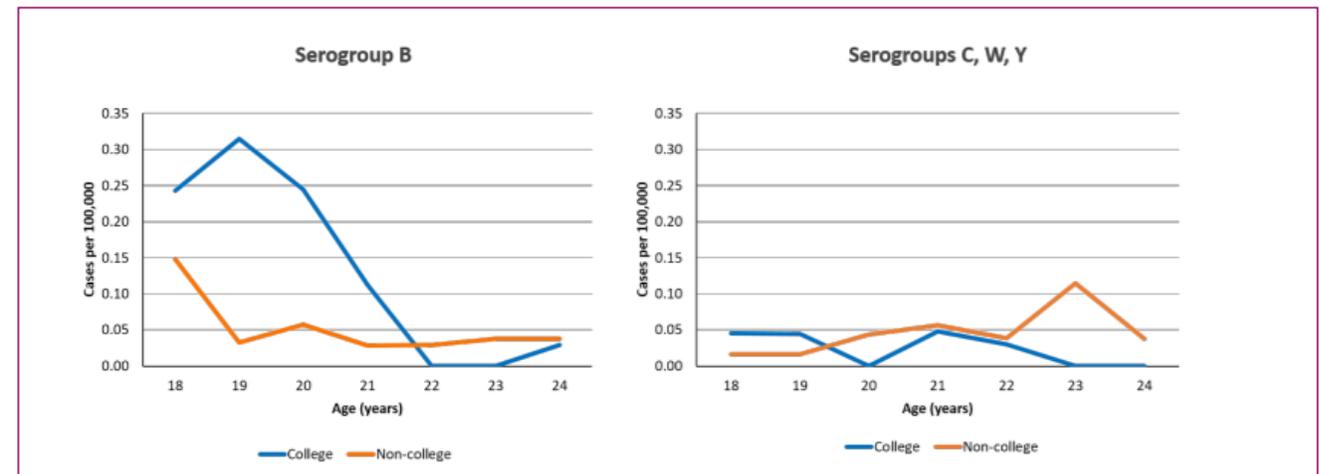
**Only 7% of college students are estimated to have received the MenB vaccine.**

### 3. MenB accounts for 50% of all meningococcal cases in the U.S. among 17-22 year olds, and is particularly prevalent among college students.

According to a more recent (2018) study conducted by CDC, amongst 162 meningococcal disease cases in young people between 18-24:

- ✓ **54.3%** were MenB cases (88/162)
- ✓ Among the 83 college students, **72.3%** were MenB cases (60)

In fact, estimated incidence of Men B has shown to be up to **700% higher** among 19-year-olds in college compared to those not in college (incidence of 0.32 compared to incidence of 0.04).



*Estimated incidence of meningococcal disease among young adults by age and serogroup - United States, 2014-2016*

# 4. MenB outbreaks are hard to control and have multi-level medical, economic and reputational implications.

27

colleges and universities have had MenB cases between 2008-2018 (based on available information)

48%

percentage of colleges and universities that had to deal with a MenB outbreak

<60%

estimated 1st dose coverage following initial mass vaccination efforts at 6 large universities, with even lower coverage for 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> doses

23

months for Ohio University (January 2008 to November 2010) to get control of their MenB outbreak

Schools with MenB Cases (2008-October 2018)	State	# of MenB Cases	MenB Outbreak
<b>2008</b>			
Ohio University	OH	3 cases, 1 death	Yes
<b>2009</b>			
University of Pennsylvania	PA	4 cases	Yes
<b>2011</b>			
Lehigh University	PA	2 cases	Yes
<b>2013</b>			
University of Wisconsin, Madison	WI	1 case, 1 death	
Princeton University	NJ	9 cases, survived	Yes
University of California, Santa Barbara	CA	6 cases, survived	Yes
Kalamazoo College	MI	1 case, 1 death	
<b>2014</b>			
Palomar Community College	CA	1 case, survived	
San Diego State University	CA	1 case, 1 death	
Drexel University	PA	1 case, 1 death	
Georgetown University	DC	1 case, 1 death	
<b>2015</b>			
Cal Poly	CA	1 case, survived	
University of California, Davis	CA	1 case, survived	
Providence College	RI	2 cases, survived	Yes
University of Oregon	OR	7 cases, 1 death	Yes
Missouri University	MO	1 case, survived	
<b>2016</b>			
University of Wisconsin, Madison	WI	3 cases, survived	Yes
Rutgers University	NJ	2 cases, survived	Yes
Oregon State University	OR	6 cases, survived	Yes
Santa Clara University	CA	3 cases, survived	Yes
<b>2017</b>			
Cal Poly	CA	2 cases, survived	
University of Massachusetts, Amherst	MA	3 cases, survived	Yes
Santa Barbara City College	CA	1 case, survived	
Kutztown University	PA	1 case, survived	
University of Illinois	IL	1 case, survived	
<b>2018</b>			
Smith College	MA	1 case, survived	
Penn State University	PA	1 case, survived	
Colgate University	NY	1 case, survived	
San Diego State University	CA	3 cases, survived	Yes
Syracuse University	NY	1 case, survived	

## 4. MenB outbreaks are hard to control and have multi-level medical, economic and reputational implications.

**Meningococcal disease cases and outbreaks on college campuses create significant anxiety and major logistical, financial and reputational challenges.**

**Popular Oregon freshman, 18, dies 'unexpectedly': Health officials investigate whether she succumbed to sudden bacterial infection**

By RYAN JASLOW CBS NEWS March 18, 2014, 2:49 PM

**Meningitis strain from Princeton University outbreak kills Drexel student**

**UCSB Student Loses Feet to Meningitis in Campus Outbreak**

Four students contracted the bacterial infection within a three-week period last month. Nov 2014

**Meningitis B strain killed SDSU student**

By Paul Sisson 2:13 P.M. OCT. 20, 2014 Updated 4:53 P.M.

**New worries about Meningitis B after Georgetown student dies**

POSTED 6:47 PM, SEPTEMBER 19, 2014, BY MARY MURPHY

**Princeton University cancels overnight student orientation after meningitis outbreak**

**Ohio University pays \$1 million to settle lawsuit after freshman from Cleveland Heights dies of bacterial meningitis**

Posted Feb 10, 2015

## 5. And most importantly, every life matters.



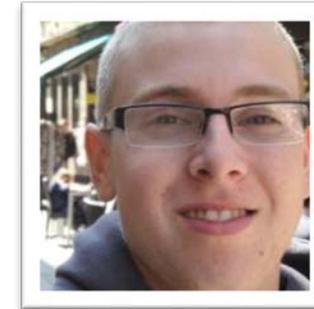
High school senior **Kimberly Coffey**, 17, died one week before her graduation.



**Henry Mackaman**, 21, was told he just had the flu. He died 4 days later.



**Lauren Jones**, 18, died in her dorm room on the same day she was sent home from the hospital.



**Scotty Barbieri**, 18, experienced flu symptoms at 7:30 am and moved to heaven at 5:30pm.



College sophomore **Emily Stillman**, 19, died just 36 hours after her first symptoms.



**Emily Benatar**, 19, died in her first year of college.



**Andrea Robinson**, 18, was watching a movie with her boyfriend and complained of a headache. She died two days later.



**Again, MenB accounts for 50% of all meningococcal cases in the U.S. among 17-22 year olds and 100% of the college outbreaks since 2011 – so why are we not giving it the attention it deserves?**

# What is the Meningitis B Action Project?



Meningitis B Awareness Day House of Representatives Resolution Reading  
April 24, 2018 – World Meningitis Day

## The project aims to:

1. **Arm parents and young adults** with the information to proactively talk to their healthcare provider about Meningitis B and the vaccine available to help prevent it
2. **Encourage the medical community, and school, college and university administrators** to inform patients and students about the availability of the Meningitis B vaccine
3. **Engage policymakers** to ensure broader access to the Meningitis B vaccine

# Our Key Message: Simplicity is Key

**2** meningitis vaccines are necessary to help protect against the disease.

Most have received the MenACWY vaccine.

Few have received the MenB vaccine.



# How Can We Help? A Resource to Support and Amplify Your Awareness and Education Efforts

## Educational resources for:

- ✓ Students
- ✓ Healthcare Professionals
- ✓ Parents

Local meetings, speaking engagements, webinars etc.

We are eager to share our stories to help you spread this important message



Available on [MeningitisBActionProject.org](http://MeningitisBActionProject.org)

*Also available in Spanish*



Brochures



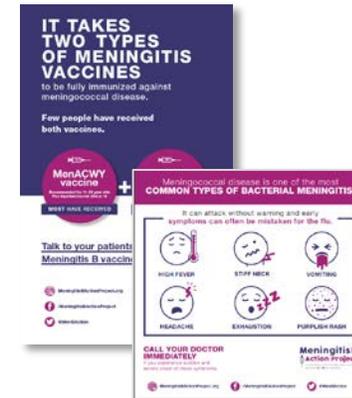
Reminder One Pager for HCPs



Posters



Tear off Reminder Pads for Doctor's Offices



Magnets for Doctor's Offices and Students



Videos

**WATCH:  
MenB in 90  
Seconds**



# Our Latest Effort: MenB Vaccination Mandate School Outreach

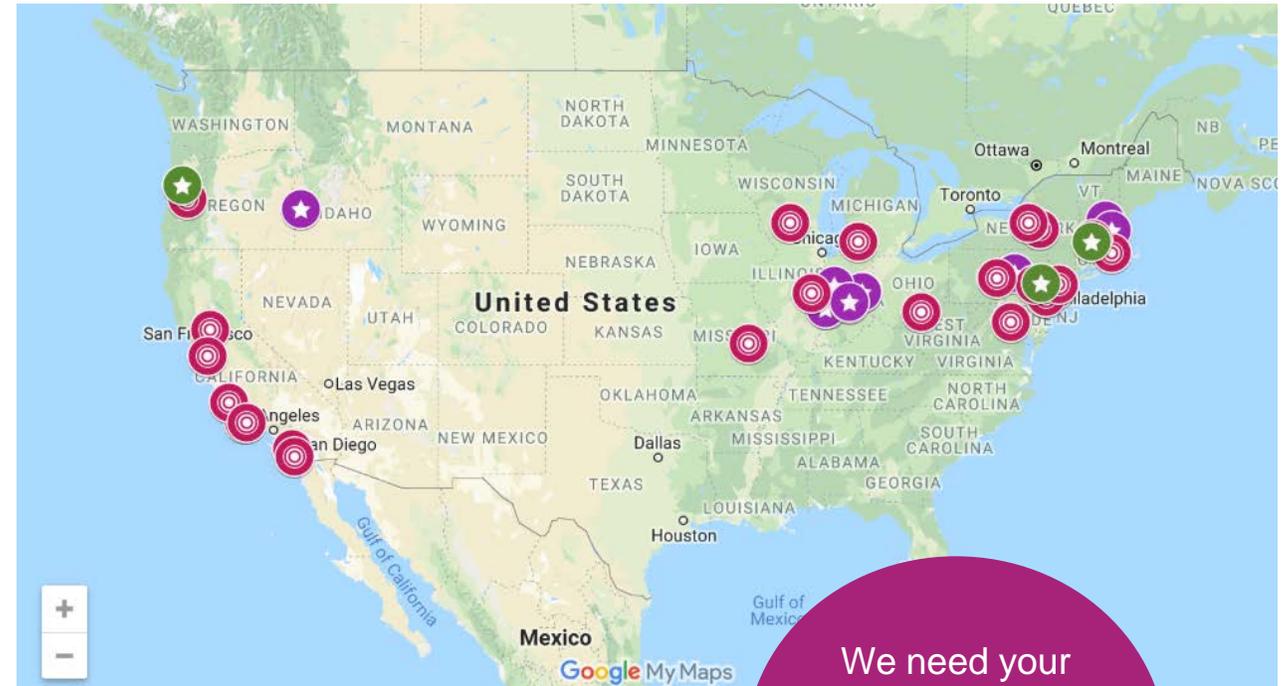
**There are 5,300 colleges and universities, and more than 30,000 high schools in the United States.**

We only know of 14 schools currently requiring MenB vaccination.

*(Purple) schools requiring Men B vaccination*

*(Green) schools requiring Men B vaccination with past Men B cases*

*(Pink) schools with past Men B cases*



We need your  
help in your  
state!  
Contact us to  
get involved!

# Our Ask

## Please help us ensure that no other young life is unnecessarily lost to Meningitis B.

- ✓ Start with you. Talk to your doctor about the Meningitis B vaccine and tell your friends and family to do the same.
- ✓ Distribute our materials to local schools, colleges and universities, clinics, medical offices etc.
- ✓ Make sure health websites and immunization forms used in the state clearly explain that there are two meningitis vaccines – MenACWY and MenB.
- ✓ Invite us to speak at local events – we are happy to share our story via in person or video conference presentations.
- ✓ Contact us for additional advocacy opportunities:  
[info@meningitisbactionproject.org](mailto:info@meningitisbactionproject.org)

## Use our Action Kit!



Questions?  
Other ideas?  
How can we help?

Contact us at  
[info@meningitisbactionproject.org](mailto:info@meningitisbactionproject.org)



## Our Supporters

