



Private bag X6001, Potchefstroom, South Africa 2520

Tel: 018 299-1111/2222

Web: <http://www.nwu.ac.za>

Health Care Centre, Building E 16.

Tel: (+27) 18 2994345

November 2017

STUDENT VACCINATION 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian

As the parent of a prospective student, you should be aware that globally, first-year university students may have an increased risk of disease caused by meningococcus (bacterial meningitis) in comparison to the general population.

How is disease caused by meningococcus transmitted?

Disease caused by meningococcus is rare but unpredictable. While many are exposed to the organism, not everyone succumbs to the disease. The bacteria are transmitted from person-to-person through droplets of respiratory or throat secretions from carriers. Close and prolonged contact, such as kissing, sneezing or coughing on someone, sharing eating or drinking utensils when living in close quarters (such as residences, dormitories and lecture halls), increases the chance of getting meningitis from an infected individual (a carrier). Clinical studies suggest that university students are more susceptible because they live and work in close proximity to each other.

How can disease caused by meningococcus be prevented?

The good news is that disease caused by the meningococcus bacterie can be prevented with a vaccine. It is recommended that your child is vaccinated against meningitis with the vaccine called Menactra. The vaccine has been in use worldwide and effectively protects against of the most common strains of the disease. Protection from the vaccine will last through adulthood and therefore does not require a future booster dose. It is important to note that this vaccine, Menactra, is not the same as the vaccine that your child received as a baby. Vaccine side effects are rare and usually mild, consisting mainly of redness and swelling at the site of injection, which may last for up to two days. We recommend that you speak to your health care professional or the university campus health services staff for more information on the disease, the vaccine, and whether your child is eligible for vaccination.

How does the vaccination process work?

The university suggests you discuss vaccination against disease caused by meningococcus with your son or daughter, and be informed **that the vaccine can be obtained on the Potchefstroom Campus at the Health Care Centre, Building E16** where qualified health care professionals will be on hand to administer the vaccine. For any enquiries, contact: 018-2994345 or elmarie.hattingh@nwu.ac.za or [27483703@nwu.ac.za](tel:27483703)

Additional vaccination against Measles, Mumps and Rubella (German measles, (the MMR vaccine) and Whooping Cough is also strongly recommended.

Attached to this letter is a consent/request form to be completed and signed by the prospective student or parent/guardian. The prospective student or parent/guardian has to submit this completed form with a proof of payment on the day of vaccination or send it to the following e-mail address: Karen.biewenga@nwu.ac.za

The vaccination can also be done at a travel clinic, a pharmacy or your family doctor prior to registration as a NWU student.



STUDENT VACCINATION 2018 – PARENTAL CONSENT

I, _____ ID number _____ parent/guardian of
 _____ ID number _____ hereby consent to

him/her receiving vaccination against bacterial meningitis, measles, mumps, and rubella (German measles). I understand that these vaccines will be administered by health professionals employed by North-West University, Potchefstroom.

It is further noted that the vaccination will be done at the Health Care Centre, Building E16, Potchefstroom Campus:

- on appointment (018-2994345)
- with printed proof of payment *and completed consent form*
- Cash can only be paid at cashier in Building F1. Bring with proof of payment and completed consent form.

Bank details: (*Kindly note: Banking details differ from other NWU accounts. Please make use of the account and reference number mentioned below.*)

Account name: NWUDiverse

Bank: ABSA

Account no: 670642313

Reference: 3B00227 / student number (consists of 8 digits)

Vaccination	Cost	Select/Tick
Meningitis (Menactra)	R631.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
MMR: Measles, Mumps and Rubella (German measles) (Priorix)	R200.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Total	R831.00	

Please provide the following details regarding the prospective student:

Student Number:

Cellphone number:

Address in Potchefstroom (indicate residence):

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN: DATE:

SIGNATURE OF STUDENT: DATE: