



INFORMATION LEAFLET

For parents/guardians of participants aged below 16 years (Version 3, 19th July 2013)

Meningitis and whooping cough vaccination study (MULTIBOOST)

Short study title: A STUDY OF THE EFFECTIVENESS AND SAFETY OF MENINGITIS AND WHOOPING COUGH BOOSTER VACCINES, GIVEN TOGETHER TO HEALTHY UK ADOLESCENTS

Full (technical) title: A phase III/IV randomised open-label study and comparison of the immunogenicity and safety of a single adolescent booster dose of a meningococcal group C conjugate booster vaccine (Meningitec™, OR NeisVac-C™, OR Menitorix™), when given concurrently with an acellular pertussis-containing booster vaccine (Repevax™ or IPV-Boostrix™)

Your child's doctors' surgery is helping Public Health England (PHE) in a study of meningitis and whooping cough vaccines. Before you decide if you would like your child to join this study, you need to understand the reasons why the research is being done and what it would involve. Please take the time to read the following information carefully and talk to others about the study if you wish.

Part 1 tells you the purpose of the study and what it would involve.

Part 2 gives you more detailed information about the conduct of the study.

PART 1

What is the purpose of the study?

In the United Kingdom, teenagers are offered booster vaccines, which are extra doses of the vaccines they had as young children. These boosters are given to make sure that they stay protected against various serious illnesses into adulthood. Public Health England is carrying out this study, on behalf of the Department of Health, as it is important that the national immunisation schedule is updated so that young people are safely protected against as many serious diseases as possible.

It has been shown that antibody levels (the part of the blood that protects against infections) for meningitis and whooping cough become reduced over time, so booster vaccinations may be needed in teenage years. This study is looking at booster doses of meningitis C and whooping cough vaccines in young people aged 13.5 to 17 years who had received the appropriate doses of these vaccines in childhood (which we can check in the General Practice (GP) records if you are not sure). This study will also help in planning vaccination programmes for the future.

Why has my child been invited to take part?

Young people aged 13.5 to 17 years, who received the appropriate doses of meningitis C and whooping cough vaccines in childhood (and who are also registered at the participating General Practitioners, GPs in Hertfordshire and Gloucestershire), are all being invited to take part.

We would like to invite your child to join this study.

Does my child have to take part?

No. Participation in the study is entirely voluntary. If you consent and your child agrees to enrol in the study after discussion with your Vaccine Research Nurse, you will be asked to sign a consent form and your child will be asked to sign an assent form. At the end of the study, we will inform you of your child's results and of any developments arising from the study. Your child would be free to withdraw at any time without giving a reason. This will not affect their routine care. If your child withdraws during the study, your Vaccine Research Nurse will be happy to discuss any further routine vaccinations that should be given by your General Practice surgery.

Will you do any safety checks before my child takes part?

Yes. In order to protect the safety and well-being of everyone taking part in the study, there are strict eligibility and safety requirements for people who wish to join. So if you are interested and your child would like to take part, we will first check if your child fits the criteria to participate, before they can join the study. The study nurse will ask you and your child some questions and may need to check your child's General Practice record to be sure that s(he) is eligible.

Please tell the study nurse if you do not want them to check your child's medical record for eligibility for the study.

If your child is eligible, and does participate, we will inform your child's General Practitioner that he/she is taking part in the study.

What will happen to my child if they take part?

If you consent and your child decides to take part in the study, we will first check if they fit the criteria for taking part. This is to protect the safety and well-being of everyone taking part in the study. The study nurse will check these criteria with you and your child before they fully register (enrol) for the study. We will inform your child's General Practitioner that they are taking part in the study.

Once your child enrolls in the study, their involvement will last about a month and there will be two study visits.

During the first visit, your child will receive two vaccines (one meningitis C vaccine; and one whooping cough vaccine) and they will also have a blood test. This first appointment will take about an hour.

The last visit will take place about 4 weeks later, and your child will have a blood test only. This visit will only take about 20 minutes.

The study visits will be conducted by your child's study nurse, and will take place at your child's General Practice surgery. It may be possible to arrange the second visit (for blood test only) at your home if it is more suitable for everyone.

An essential part of the study is checking whether the vaccines are able to stimulate natural body defences against diseases being vaccinated against. This can only be done by collecting blood samples. Your child will be offered some anaesthetic cream to numb the skin before the nurse takes a small blood sample (about 10ml, which is about two teaspoons) from your child. This will be done on two occasions (once before vaccination, and once after 4 weeks).

At the end of this study, once we have completed the required tests, any samples left over may be valuable in other investigations to help improve our understanding of vaccines and how they work. You and your child will be asked to consent to any samples left over from this study being kept for use in this way. Your child can still take part in this study if you do not wish any leftover samples from them to be kept for this use. No genetic tests will be carried out on your child's samples.

On each evening for seven days after the vaccination we will ask you and your child to fill in a "Participant's Health Diary". This involves taking your child's temperature, looking at the injection site and answering some simple questions. We will provide a thermometer and a ruler for this purpose. Your child's Vaccine Research Nurse will show you/your child how to take their temperature (oral) and how to complete the diary.

If your child has an illness and sees the General Practitioner or a hospital doctor, please inform the doctor that they are taking part in this study. If possible and at your convenience, please then let us know by telephoning your child's Vaccine Research Nurse, that they have been unwell, even if this seems unrelated to vaccination. We may then contact your child's doctor for further information.

Which vaccines are involved in the study?

There are a total of five vaccines being studied. Your child will receive **two** of these vaccines (one meningitis C vaccine; and one whooping cough vaccine).

- (i) Your child will receive **one** out of the three study vaccines that protect against meningitis C. They are:

MeningitecTM (made by the Nuron company)

or **NeisVac-C**TM (made by Baxter)

or **Menitorix**TM (made by GSK) - this vaccine also protects against Hib disease (*H. influenzae* type b).

- (ii) Your child will also receive **one** vaccine out of two that protect against whooping cough. They are:

Repevax (made by Sanofi)

or **IPV-Boostrix** (made by GSK)

Both of these are combination vaccines, which means that they each protect against more than one disease. They also protect against tetanus, diphtheria, and polio (in addition to whooping cough).

All the vaccines that will be used in this study are licensed for use in the United Kingdom, UK. Although Menitorix is only licensed for use in children up to the age of two years, it has been well used in people above this age. Official United Kingdom immunisation guidelines

recommend it for vaccinating older children and adults who require protection against either meningitis or *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) disease.

Which two vaccines will my child be given?

People who take part in the study will be divided into six groups, depending on which two vaccines are given. A computer programme will decide randomly (like tossing a coin) which group your child will be in. This is so that we can compare the different vaccines and make sure that we have similar numbers of people in each group. The different groups are shown in this table:

	Meningitec™ (Nuron)		NeisVac-C™ (Baxter)	Menitorix® (GSK)
Repevax™ (Sanofi)	Group 1		Group 2	Group 3
IPV-Boostrix™ (GSK)	Group 4		Group 5	Group 6

Will this change my child's normal routine vaccination in any way?

Yes. If your child takes part in this study, they will **not** need to receive their normal routine teenage booster vaccine dose against tetanus, whooping cough, and polio.

All young people aged between 13 and 18 years are routinely offered a single booster vaccine that protects against these three infections. Since the vaccines in this study fully cover all of these infections, if your child participates in the study they would no longer need the routine vaccine. Please note that **for females**, taking part in this study **does not affect** the routine vaccination against Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) that is offered to all girls aged between 12 and 13 years.

What are the possible disadvantages and risks as well as benefits of taking part?

Risks: There are some possible side effects to any vaccination, including discomfort on injection as well as some swelling, redness, pain and/or heat to the touch at the injection site afterwards. Participants may also experience fever, headache, nausea (feeling sick), muscle pain, rash, joint pain and feeling generally unwell. These symptoms usually subside by themselves without treatment or affecting normal activities. Allergic reactions can occur with any vaccine but these are very rare, and the usual safety precautions as for any vaccination will be taken during this study.

To date, there has been no indication of any particular side effects with any of the study vaccines, other than those listed above and associated with any vaccine.

The blood sampling may cause slight discomfort and there may be some pain or bruising at the site where the blood is taken.

Benefits: Your child will receive two vaccines which should boost their protection against meningitis C and whooping cough. These infections can be very serious and can cause death. One of the vaccines that your child will receive may also offer a boost in protection against other serious infections, namely diphtheria, polio, and tetanus; and for some participants, also against *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) disease (depending on the study group that they are randomly assigned to).

Information gained from this study will help to increase understanding about the vaccines and will inform national vaccination policy in the future.

What are the side effects of any treatment when taking part?

The section on “risks” (above) describes some side effects to vaccination. Severe allergic reactions can occur with any vaccine but these are very rare, all our research nurses are trained for this and the usual safety precautions for any vaccination will be taken.

What if there is a problem?

Any complaint about the way you and your child have been dealt with during the study or any possible harm your child might suffer will be addressed. The detailed information on this is given in part 2.

Will my child’s participation in the study be kept confidential?

Yes, we will follow ethical and legal practice and all information will be handled in confidence. The details are included in part 2.

This completes part 1.

<p>In summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participants will receive two vaccines in all (one dose of meningitis C vaccine, and one dose of a whooping cough combination vaccine).• During the study, two blood samples will be taken; the first sample will be taken at the time of vaccination; and the second sample will be taken 4 weeks later, at the last study visit. <p>If the information in part 1 has interested you and you are considering participation</p>

please read the additional information in part 2 before making any decision.

PART 2

What if relevant new information becomes available?

Sometimes we get new information about vaccines which could include those being studied here. If this happens, we will let you and your child know and discuss whether your child should continue in the study. In some circumstances the study doctors may advise it best for your child to withdraw from the study. If you and your child decide to continue in light of the new information we may ask you to sign an updated consent form.

If the study is stopped for any reason we will let you know, as well as give your child's GP information about your child's continuing care.

What will happen if we do not want to carry on in the study?

Your child can withdraw from the study at any time without having to give a reason. If you and your child withdraw, you would need to decide if you want samples collected from your child (if any have already been collected) to be destroyed. If you would like them to be destroyed, you would need to inform us in writing. We would retain any information collected to that point in case we needed to reach you or your child at some time in the future based on the outcome of the study.

What if there is a problem?

Complaints

If you have (or your child has) any concerns about any aspect of this study, you and your child can contact the Vaccine Research Nurse or the study organisers (see details below), who will do their best to answer your questions. If you remain unhappy and wish to complain formally then you can do this through the National Health Service Complaints Procedure, details of which can be obtained at www.nhs.uk or by phoning 0845 601 3012.

Harm

In the event that something does go wrong and your child is harmed during the research and this is due to someone's negligence then you will have grounds for legal action for compensation against Public Health England but you may have to pay your legal costs. The National Health Service complaints mechanism will still be available to you and your child. Where justified, an ex gratia payment for any non-negligent harm may be made.

What data and confidentiality safeguards are in place?

Under the data protection laws, you have a right know how your child's personal data from this trial will be used, so that you understand exactly what information will be collected and who will have access to it. Personal data may include your child's name and address as well as results of the blood tests, and medical records so that we are able to analyse information and answer the study objectives. The only people with access to this information will be employees or agents of Public Health England, the Department of Health or regulatory authorities who may wish to check the study is being properly carried out within the appropriate guidelines.

The data will only be used for the purposes of this study and any data released outside the above group will be anonymised. Data will be stored in secure Public Health England facilities and will be disposed of within clinical trial guidelines after the appropriate time period which may be a number of years. You have the right to obtain access to data relating to your child. If you wish to obtain any information, please contact us on the numbers listed in this leaflet.

Involvement of my child's GP

We will let your child's General Practitioner know that your child is taking part in the study by writing them a letter. We will also give them a copy of the letter that we send to you with your child's antibody test results for their record.

What will happen to any samples from my child?

The two blood samples we take for this study would not be part of your child's routine medical care. The samples will be labelled with your child's study number but not their name. The samples will be tested in collaborating laboratories and results will be sent to Public Health England where they will be linked with information about your child so that we can see whether things such as age or sex affect responses to vaccination.

Once we have completed these tests any blood left over from this trial may be used to help develop and refine the tests we have for measuring responses to vaccines. Any samples shared with other laboratories will be anonymised and will not be traceable to the person who gave them. You and your child will be asked to consent to any blood left over from this study being used in this way (this is optional). Your child may still take part in the study if you do not wish to consent to this.

Will any genetic tests be done?

No genetic tests will be carried out on your child's samples.

What will happen to the results of the research study?

We plan to publish the results in a medical journal which will be accessible to the public (an access fee may apply with some journals). The results of the study will also be reported to the Department of Health to help planning national vaccination programmes in the future. In any report or publication arising from this study, it will not be feasible for readers to identify any individual participant. No information that could allow identification of individuals will be included in any report or publication.

Who is organising and funding the research?

The study is funded by the Department of Health and is being organised by the Immunisation Department of Public Health England (PHE).

Public Health England is an independent body that protects the health and well-being of the population. Public Health England plays a critical role in protecting people from infectious diseases and in preventing harm when hazards involving chemicals, poisons or radiation occur.

Who reviewed the study?

All research in the National Health Service is looked at by an independent group of people, called a Research Ethics Committee to protect the safety, rights, well-being and dignity of individuals. This study has been reviewed and given favourable approval by the London - Brent Research Ethics Committee - Reference 13/LO/0681.

Further information and contact details

Further information about our trials programme including links to the organisations reviewing research and the guidance we follow can be found at <http://www.hpa.org.uk> and typing *clinical trials* into the search bar.

Your child's contribution would be an important step towards the continual improvement of vaccine policy in the United Kingdom. Your child may be invited to take part in future studies with us by virtue of the surgery you attend. We reassure you that invitations for future studies will not be because of anything to be concerned about from results of this study.

If you have any further questions please ask your vaccine Research Nurse, or contact the organiser Professor Liz Miller on 020 8327 7430.

You can also email your question to the Clinical Trials Team at clinical.trials@phe.gov.uk

Thank you for your time.

[Vaccine Research Nurse contact details sticker](#)