

*The advice of JCVI is made with reference to the UK immunisation programme and may not necessarily transfer to other epidemiological circumstances*

## **Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation**

### **Update on the outcome of consultation about use of Bexsero® meningococcal B vaccine in the UK**

JCVI is acutely aware of the burden and severity of meningococcal meningitis and septicaemia in the UK and recognises the need to explore the potential for its prevention through immunisation. The committee published an interim statement on 24 July 2013 outlining the current position of its analysis of the potential use of a serogroup B meningococcal vaccine in the UK, both routinely and in at risk groups, and sought comment and feedback from stakeholders to inform further deliberations.

JCVI was very grateful to receive a number of detailed comments that have now been considered by JCVI and its meningococcal sub-committee. The submissions received included references to new and recently published evidence and further analyses are necessary to respond fully. The required analyses are being commissioned and will be completed as quickly as possible. The JCVI interim position statement of 24 July 2013 cannot be updated until these analyses are complete.

Professor Andrew Pollard, chairman of JCVI, said: *“We are looking very carefully at the new information and perspectives that have been provided to us by scientists, the meningitis charities and the manufacturers to ensure that we use the best available evidence to advise the UK health departments on the potential of a serogroup B meningococcal vaccine.”*

The minute of JCVI’s meeting on 2 October 2013 will be published on or before 13 November 2013.

JCVI  
25 October 2013

#### Notes

1. The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) is an independent Departmental Expert Committee and a statutory body constituted for the purpose of advising the Secretary of State on *“The provision of vaccination and immunisation services being facilities for the prevention of illness”*.
2. The JCVI’s terms of reference as agreed by the UK health departments are - *“To advise UK health departments on immunisations for the prevention of infections and/or disease following due consideration of the evidence on the burden of disease, on vaccine safety and efficacy and on the impact and cost effectiveness of immunisation strategies. To consider and identify factors for the successful and effective implementation of immunisation strategies. To identify important knowledge gaps relating to immunisations or immunisation programmes where further research and/or surveillance should be considered.”*
3. The JCVI interim position statement on the use of Bexsero meningococcal B vaccine in the UK was published on the .GOV.UK website on 24 July 2013, and is available at: [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/224896/JCVI\\_interim\\_statement\\_on\\_meningococcal\\_B\\_vaccination\\_for\\_web.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/224896/JCVI_interim_statement_on_meningococcal_B_vaccination_for_web.pdf)