

## **FREE MENINGITIS VACCINATION**

**MENACWY** – Eligibility: All patients born between 1 Sep 96 & 31 Aug 98 who have not been previously vaccinated (age 18 & 19yrs).

**MENC FRESHERS** – Eligibility: All patients aged 19 on 31 Aug 16 up to age 25 who are attending further education/university for the 1<sup>st</sup> time who have not been previously vaccinated are also eligible for the MENACWY vaccine. Patients will be informed by their university/college and self-present.

### **Additional Information for Patients**

#### **Protection from Meningitis and Septicaemia**

The Men ACWY vaccine protects against meningitis (inflammation of the brain) and septicaemia (blood poisoning) caused by meningococcal groups A, C, W and Y.

It is being offered in response to a rapidly growing increase in cases of a highly aggressive strain of meningococcal disease group W. This disease can cause meningitis and septicemia that can kill in hours, and those who recover may be left severely disabled. The vaccine also protects against three other meningococcal groups too – A, C and Y.

If you're planning to go to university, please make an appointment as soon as possible before leaving for university. You are at more risk of meningitis and septicaemia in the first weeks at university when you mix with lots of new people, some of whom may unknowingly carry the meningococcal bacteria, which is usually spread through prolonged close contact.

**If you decide not to have the vaccination please let us know so we can enter this on your medical records.**

Further information on the vaccination programme and meningococcal disease can be found on NHS Choices at: <http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/vaccinations/Pages/men-acwy-vaccine.aspx>

**CONTACT RECEPTION TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT.**