



## **Information on the Men ACWY vaccination against Meningitis:**

This vaccine helps to protect against bacteria of types A, C, Y and W-135 that cause meningitis or infection in the blood stream (meningococccemia). These, so called, meningococcal bacteria spread by sharing oral secretions such as: sharing food and drinks; kissing; sharing personal items such as lipstick, toothbrushes, water bottles, musical instruments. Meningitis is a serious illness that causes swelling in the lining of the brain and spinal cord. Symptoms of meningococcal disease can be severe and sudden and can include fever, severe headache, stiff neck, nausea, vomiting and sometimes a red pin-point rash with bruising. This illness can cause death, loss of hearing, nervous system damage and even loss of a limb.

### **Common Questions Raised:**

#### **1) How many doses does my child need?**

Dosage and frequency in healthy persons:

When the first dose is given under 6 months of age, 2 doses are given in early childhood, with a booster at 14 years of age. (3 doses in total)

If the first dose is given after 6 months of age but under 14 years of age, a second dose is needed as a booster at 14 years of age. (2 doses in total)

If never administered before 14 years of age, 1 dose offers adequate cover.

#### **2) Can other vaccines be given around the same time as the vaccine (Nimenrix®)?**

The vaccine can be administered at the same time as the DTP vaccine as well as the HPV vaccination, which is another vaccine given in adolescence. No specific time interval is needed between the administration of these 3 vaccines as none are live.

## **Informazzjoni dwar it-tilqima tal-Men ACWY kontra l- Meningite::**

Dan il-vaċċin jgħin biex jiproteġi kontra batterji tat-tipi A, C, Y u W-135 li jikkawżaw il-meningite jew infezzjoni fil-fluss tad-demem (*meningococemia*). L-hekk imsejha batterji meningokokkali, jinfirxu billi jirnexxielhom jaqsmu barrieri protettivi fil-ħalq bħal waqt qsim ta' ikel u xorb; bews; self ta' oġġetti personali bħal lipstick, xkupilji tas-snien, fliexken tal-ilma, strumenti mużikali eċċ. Il-Meningite hija marda serja ħafna li tikkawża nefha fir-rita li hemm madwar il-moħħ u s-sinsla tad-dahar. Is-sintomi ta' mard meningokokkali jistgħu jkunu severi u f'daqqa u jistgħu jinkludu deni, uġiġħ ta' ras qawwi, għonq iebes, dardir, rimettar u xi kultant, raxx aħmar bi-tbenġil. Din il-marda tista' tikkawża mewt, telf tas-smiġħ, ħsara fis-sistema nervuża u anke saħansitra, telf ta' xi driegħ.

### **Mistoqsijiet Komuni:**

#### **1) Kemm-il doża għandu/ha bżonn it-tifel/ tifla tiegħi?**

Tqassim udożaġġ tal-vaċċin f'persuni b'saħħithom:

Meta l-ewwel doża tingħata taħt is-6 xhur, jingħataw 2 doži fit-tfulija bikrija, b'booster fl-età ta' 14-il sena. (3 doži b'kollox)

Jekk l-ewwel doża tingħata wara 6 xhur iżda taħt l-14-il sena, it-tieni doża hija meħtieġa bħala booster fl-età ta' 14-il sena. (2 doži b'kollox)

Jekk gatt ma tingħata qabel l-14-il sena, doża waħda toffri kopertura adegwata.

#### **2) Jistgħu jingħataw vaċċini oħra madwar l-istess ħin tal-vaċċin kontra l-meningokokkus (Nimenrix®)?**

Il-vaċċin jista' jingħata fl-istess ħin mal-vaċċin DTP (Difterite, Tetnu u Polio) kif ukoll it-tilqim HPV (ara isfel), li huwa vaċċin ieħor mogħti fl-adolessenza. Mhu meħtieġ l-ebda intervall ta' żmien speċifiku bejn l-għoti ta' dawn it-3 vaċċini peress li l-ebda vaċċin minnhom ma jinkludi mikrobi ħajjin ġewwa fiħ.

## **Information on the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccine**

HPV is a sexually transmitted, vaccine-preventable virus that causes cancers in both males and females. The HPV vaccination prevents this infection and therefore prevents cancers of the neck of uterus (in females) and cancers of the head and neck, and genital warts in both males and females. Ideally, the HPV vaccination is administered to children before their first sexual encounter, and therefore it is offered to children in their early teens to offer maximum effect and protection. In the recent years, the vaccine was offered to girls, and, as a result of vaccination, there was a documented significant decrease of infections with HPV types that cause cancer and genital warts. This protection is now being offered to boys.

### **Informazzjoni dwar il-vaċċin tal-HPV (Human Papilloma Virus)**

L-HPV huwa virus trażmess sesswalment, li jikkawża kanċer kemm fl-irġiel kif ukoll fin-nisa u li jista' jiġi evitat billi wieħed jieħu vaċċin. It-tilqim tal-HPV jipprevjeni din l-infezzjoni u għalhekk jipprevjeni l-kanċer tal-għonq tal-utru (fin-nisa), kanċers tar-ras u tal-għonq, u felul ġenitali kemm fl-irġiel kif ukoll fin-nisa. Idealment, it-tilqim tal-HPV jingħata lit-tfal qabel l-ewwel kuntatt sesswali tagħhom, u għalhekk jiġi offrut lit-tfal fl-adolozzenza bikrija tagħhom biex joffri effett kmieni u għalhekk, protezzjoni massima. Fis-snin riċenti, il-vaċċin ġie offrut lill-bniet, u, bħala riżultat tat-tilqim, kien hemm tnaqqis sostanzjali dokumentat ta' infezzjonijiet b'tipi ta' HPV li jikkawżaw kanċer u felul ġenitali. Din il-protezzjoni issa qed tiġi offruta lis-subien.