



Dear Grade 7 Student,

You are being invited to take part in a **Meningococcal Vaccine Study** because doctors at the IWK Health Centre would like to find out what the best meningococcal vaccine is to give to youth at your age.

All grade 7 students in Nova Scotia are offered a set of vaccines to keep them healthy and protect them against serious infections. One of the vaccines that you will receive is to protect you against meningococcal disease. Meningococcal disease is caused by a bacteria (germ) and causes very severe disease such as blood poisoning or an infection around your brain lining (meningitis). You receive protection against 4 types of meningococcal meningitis in one needle/vaccine.

We are doing this study to help doctors understand if there is a difference between the 3 different meningitis vaccines used in Canada, and to find out if any one of them is better than the others. The three vaccines are called Menveo[®], Menactra[®] and Nimenrix[®].

This study is for healthy pre-teens entering Grade 7 who have not received Menveo[®], Menactra[®] and Nimenrix[®] before. Taking part in this study will involve coming to the IWK Health Centre (at the Canadian Center for Vaccinology), three times over the course of 1 year. You will be randomly assigned (like the flip of a coin) into 1 of the 3 groups and will receive 1 vaccine. Blood tests will be done at all 3 visits and we will ask questions about your health as well. The study will take about 1-2 hours of your time in total. Parents will receive \$25/visit and a parking pass and children will receive a \$25 gift card after each visit as a token of our appreciation for travel and time to take part in the study.

Results from this study may provide researchers and policy makers information about the best meningococcal vaccine in the future.

Participation in the study is of course voluntary (it is up to you and your parents if you decide to take part). If you are interested in learning about this project, please have your parents contact the CCfV study staff at 902-470-8948, email us at pamela.macintyre@iwk.nshealth.ca or visit our website at www.vaccineresearch.ca.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Joanne Langley
Principal Investigator
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IWK Health Centre