

ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

New York State requires that all students read this information and sign the box below in order to register for classes.

Name: _____ UID _____

Meningococcal Information Sheet and Meningococcal Immunization of RIT Students

Meningococcal meningitis is a rare but dangerous illness that mainly affects children and young adults. College-aged students have a greater potential risk of outbreaks than the general population due to a prevalence of risk factors that are often part of campus life. These risks include residence hall (or other group) living, active and passive smoking, bar patronage, and alcohol consumption. The current vaccine protects against four of the five strains of the disease; these strains account for 70% of cases among college students. Adverse reactions to the vaccine are mild and infrequent. As with other immunizations, vaccination against meningococcal meningitis may not protect 100% of all susceptible individuals. Immunity develops 7 to 10 days following vaccination. **The State of New York requires that colleges and universities provide information about the disease.** Pre-exposure vaccination greatly reduces a student's risk of disease, and is an **(RIT) Institute requirement** for students:

- 26 years of age or younger who are not pregnant

Other students who should consider the vaccination include:

- Students 26 years of age or **older** (who are not pregnant) with chronic immune deficiency problems and patients without a functional spleen who elect to decrease their risk for disease.
- Students traveling to areas of the world where the disease is known to be endemic.

New York State Public Health Law **requires** that all students enrolled for at least four (4) credit hours per quarter, complete this form.

I have read the information regarding meningococcal meningitis disease. I understand the benefits and risks of the vaccine.

Signed: _____
Signature of Student (Parent/Guardian if under the age of 18)

Date of Signature: _____

Please contact the Student Health Center for cost and availability of meningococcal vaccine.

Fax Number: 585-475-7788