



MENINGOCOCCAL FORM

Name: _____

Social Security Number: _____

This form must be completed, signed and returned by ALL students and will become part of their health record as required by New Jersey Law P.L.2000c.25, passed on January 14th, 2004.

Please read the information below about meningococcal meningitis and answer questions.

I have received and read the information about Meningococcal Meningitis, the effectiveness of the vaccine and the vaccines availability. Yes _____ No _____

Are you a RESIDENT or COMMUTER (circle one)

If you are a new Centenary College student or prior commuter student and will reside on campus for the first time, you are required to receive the Meningococcal Vaccine before moving into your resident hall.

DATE VACCINATED: _____ Menactra" (preferred) ____ Menomune ____
Healthcare Provider _____ Health Service _____ Other _____.

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Meningococcal meningitis is a contagious, potentially life-threatening bacterial infection that causes hearing loss, learning disability, limb amputation, kidney failure, and/or death can result from the infection. Although the disease is rare, outbreaks of meningitis on college campuses have risen in recent years. While the reasons are not yet fully understood, students residing in campus residences appear to be at higher risk for the disease than college students overall.

Vaccination is an effective way for students to protect themselves against possible infection. The vaccine is 85 to 100 percent effective in preventing four strains of meningococcal disease, which together account for nearly 70 percent of meningococcal cases on campuses. The vaccine is safe, with mild and infrequent side effects. Onset of symptoms can be easily mistaken for the flu and include high fever, headache, stiff neck, nausea, vomiting, confusion and rash. Meningitis progresses rapidly so quick action is urgent. The sooner treatment begins, the better the chances for a complete recovery.

The American College Health Association and the New Jersey Department of Health now recommend that all college students under the age of 25 consider getting vaccinated against meningococcal meningitis. It would be appropriate that students and parents consider, in consultation with their healthcare provider, receiving this vaccination prior to matriculating or returning to college. The meningococcal vaccine is also available through Health Services at cost.

Please call (908) 852-1400 ext. 2206 if you have any questions.