
February 28, 2017

Testimony: Jody Daniels, Director of State Government Affairs, GlaxoSmithKline

RE: In Support of SB 274 requiring Oregon Colleges and Universities to provide incoming students with information on vaccine preventable diseases.

Mr. Chair and Members of the Senate Education Committee:

On behalf of GSK, I thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 274. We commend the Senate's efforts to ensure that adolescents in the state of Oregon receive vaccines as recommended by the federal Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). As you know, the ACIP routinely recommends meningococcal conjugate ACWY (MCV4) vaccines for children aged 11-12, and a booster for young adults aged 16.¹ In addition, the ACIP Recommends that 16-23 year-olds (preferred age range is 16-18 years) may receive a meningococcal B (MenB) vaccine after consultation and recommendation from a health care provider.² The recommendations further help protect teenagers and young adults from death and severe disability that can result from all 5 vaccine-preventable meningococcal serogroups: A, B, C, W, and Y.

SB 274 would ensure that all students living on campus in higher education settings are informed about all ACIP recommended vaccines for their age group, including meningococcal vaccines. This is especially important for vaccinations for all strains of meningitis because college students in communal living situations are considered at risk populations by the CDC. Colleges and universities would retain the flexibility and discretion to determine the best way to provide this information. As of March of this year, 34 states had an educational requirements like this for ACIP recommended vaccines, including meningococcal vaccines.³

Recent clustered meningococcal meningitis cases on college campuses, including isolated but deadly cases over the past few years, demonstrate how important it is to help protect college students through vaccination and vaccine education. In 2015 at the University of Oregon, we experienced a serious Meningitis B outbreak which took the life of a young student and athlete.⁴ A college entry educational requirement for all five harmful serogroups of meningococcal bacteria would be a strong step forward for student health statewide.

Thank you for your time. I am happy to answer questions.

¹ CDC. Prevention and Control of Meningococcal Disease. Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). MMWR 2013; 62(2).

² CDC. Use of Serogroup B Meningococcal Vaccines in Adolescents and Young Adults: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). MMWR 2015;64 (41).

³ Immunization Action Coalition, Meningococcal Prevention Mandates for Colleges and Universities, *available at* <http://www.immunize.org/laws/menin.asp> (last updated March 2016).

⁴ Betsy Hammond, Meningococcal disease confirmed as cause of death of University of Oregon student, *The Oregonian* (February 20, 2015), http://www.oregonlive.com/education/index.ssf/2015/02/meningococcal_disease_confirme.html.

