

Rebecca Evans AC/AM  
Gweinidog Iechyd y Cyhoedd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Social Services and Public Health



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref RE/00331/17

Mike Hedges AM  
Chair - Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Ty Hywel  
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government.committee.business@wales.gsi.gov.uk

5 April 2017

Dear Mike,

Thank you for your letter on behalf of the Petitions Committee about Petition P-05-693 Give Every Child in Wales the Meningitis Vaccine for Free.

The joint letter from Meningitis Now and the Meningitis Research Foundation provides a helpful summary of the understandable public concerns about meningococcal infection and the views supporting the wider use of the Bexsero® Meningitis B (MenB) vaccine.

At its meeting in June 2016, the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) undertook a comprehensive review of the evidence for extending MenB vaccination to older age groups. The Committee noted the significant public opinion represented by the number of signatures to the petition and the evidence presented by the Meningitis charities in supporting the wider use of the vaccine.

The JCVI considered the cost effectiveness of extending the programme to a number of older age groups and other factors such as vaccine supply and concluded that the routine programme as currently offered remained the priority.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

No further advice has been provided since that time. The JCVI will continue to monitor the programme and its impact on meningococcal disease. Any updated advice received from the JCVI will be given careful consideration by the Welsh Government at that time.

Yn eiddo

Rebecca

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