



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
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September 8, 2008

TO: Washington State Board of Health Members
FROM: Dr. Diana Yu, SBOH Member
SUBJECT: IMMUNIZATION RULE HEARING—WAC 246-100-166

Background and Summary

WAC 246-100-166 concerns the immunization of child care and school children against certain vaccine-preventable diseases. On September 2, 2008 the Board filed a CR-102 with the Code Reviser's Office that proposed a rule revision that included. (1) adding pneumococcal disease to the list of vaccine preventable diseases for which immunization is required; (2) updating the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice Recommended Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedule reference to the 2008 version; (3) repealing WAC 246-100-166 to re-codify it into a new chapter with nine sections; and (4) clarifying existing terms and policies in the rule.

In January, the Board received a petition to add vaccine preventable pneumococcal diseases to the immunization rule (WAC 246-100-166). The Board noted that the pneumococcal antigen appeared to meet the two initial assumptions that must be satisfied before it will convene a Technical Advisory Group (TAG). The Board denied the petition, and instead established a Technical Advisory Group.

On July 25, 2007, I convened a TAG that comprised immunization stakeholders from the fields of public health, childcare licensing, daycare, school health, medicine, and child advocacy. Its charge was to provide recommendations to the Board that would assist it in determining whether to amend the rule to require protection against pneumococcal disease for licensed childcare facilities and/or preschool entry. The TAG recommended that vaccine preventable pneumococcal diseases be added to the rule. In October 2007, the Board accepted the TAG recommendations and requested that the rule be modified.

Today the Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed rule revisions and consider adoption. Tara Wolff, SBOH staff, will describe the proposed rule changes and their rationale in greater detail. Jeff Wise from the Department of Health Immunization Program will present comments received to date. They will present a proposed amendment intended to further clarify portions of the rule related to conditional status.

Recommended Board Action

Depending on testimony offered and the Board's discussions, the Board may choose to consider, amend if necessary, and adopt the following motion:

The Board adopts the revised WAC 246-100-166 as published in WSR 08-18-06 with the amendments to WAC 246-105-060 and WAC 246-105-080 as described in the sheet labeled Conditional Status Language Revision.