

GRAND ROUNDS

Dec. 3

CPC "A Term Newborn with Sepsis and Abdominal Distention: Which Came First"

Becky J Ennis, M.D., F.A.A.P., Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Division of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine, UT Southwestern, Sarah Johnson-Welch, MD, Associate Professor of Pathology, Children's, Michael Skinner, M.D., Professor of Pediatric Surgery, Children's.

Dec. 10

Congenital diarrhea-molecular insights into old diseases and identification of new ones

Martin G. Martin, M.D., Professor of Pediatrics, UCLA School of Medicine, UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA.

Dec. 17

Differential diagnosis and evaluation of Eosinophilic children

Elizabeth Race, M.D., Associate Professor of Internal Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, UT Southwestern.

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MEDICAL UPDATE: Meningococcal vaccine

Due to recent publicity, physicians may be receiving more questions about invasive meningococcal disease and Sanofi Pasteur's tetravalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine, Menactra (MCV4). The company's ad campaign for Menactra focuses on its use in children and adolescents to prevent the disease and its three most common forms: meningitis, blood infection and pneumonia.

Invasive meningococcal disease affects approximately 1,000-2,600 people annually in the United States, and has a fatality rate of 10 to 14 percent. The onset of the disease can be sudden and the course of the illness rapid: 11 to 19 percent of survivors of the disease suffer serious adverse events including deafness, neurologic deficits or loss of limbs. The highest rates of disease occur in infancy with a second peak in adolescence around 18 years of age.

Menactra is licensed by the FDA for individuals ages 2 to 55 years for the prevention of invasive meningococcal disease caused by *N. meningitidis* serogroups A, C, Y and W-135 and is the preferred vaccine compared to the tetravalent meningococcal polysaccharide vaccine (MPSV4), which has been available since the 1970's.

Menactra is not indicated for the prevention of disease caused by other microorganisms or for the prevention of invasive meningococcal disease caused by *N. meningitidis* serogroup B. There is no vaccine currently approved in the

United States that protects against serogroup B.

Guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control recommend Menactra for children and adolescents ages 11 through 18. This dose is normally given during the routine preadolescent immunization visit (at 11-12 years). Those who did not get the vaccine during this visit should get it at the earliest opportunity.

Menactra is also recommended for those at high risk of the disease, including college freshmen living in dormitories, U.S. military recruits, those persons traveling to areas of the world where meningococcal disease is common (such as parts of Africa), anyone with a damaged spleen or whose spleen has been removed, persons with the immune system disorder known as terminal complement component deficiency, and anyone who has been exposed to meningitis during an outbreak.

Menactra may have mild side effects, such as redness or pain where the shot was given. A small percentage of people who receive the vaccine develop a fever. Serious allergic reactions are very rare.

For more information on invasive meningococcal disease, contact R. Doug Hardy, M.D., at Robert.Hardy@UTSouthwestern.edu.

R. Doug Hardy, M.D. has associations with the following Abbott, Astellas, GSK, HRSA, Merck, NIH, Sanofi Pasteur and Wyeth.

SERVICE UPDATE: 2008-2009 Nutrition Handbook and Formulary

The *2008-2009 Nutrition Handbook and Formulary* is now available for purchase on www.childrens.com. Created by the clinical nutrition department at Children's, the handbook provides a quick nutrition reference for healthcare professionals who treat infants and children. Books cost \$12 each plus shipping.

The handbook features information on anthropometrics, oral and nutritional guidelines, lactation information, enteral nutrition, parenteral nutrition and national nutritional concerns including the current obesity epidemic.

To purchase a copy, log on to www.childrens.com/nutritionhandbook.