

Meningitis Advisory Fall 2017

Two students at the University of Massachusetts Amherst have been diagnosed and are under treatment for bacterial meningitis. UMass Lowell has no reported or suspected cases. Although the risk of meningococcal disease is low, college and university students are at a slightly higher risk for contracting meningitis due to their group living situations, the sharing of food and drink, and engaging in activities that result in the exchange of saliva.

Please see the [Massachusetts Public Health Fact Sheet on Meningococcal Disease](#) to understand this illness and the signs and symptoms of disease.

Students wishing to receive the Meningitis or Meningitis B vaccine should contact their primary care provider or may locate a local facility that offers it at <https://vaccinefinder.org/>. Protection is not immediate and should be considered as a precaution against future exposures.

We remain vigilant in our evaluation of students who present to our Wellness Center with symptoms of illness. We will keep the university community informed as necessary to maintain the safety of our students, faculty and staff.