

August 12, 2006

Dear Incoming Freshman or Transfer Student:

You may have heard about cases of the illness meningitis among students on some college campuses. Let me assure you that Northeastern is an institution that is not at high risk for the illness to occur. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study concluded that the most "at risk" group is freshman students who live in a dormitory because meningitis is transmitted by close contact between infected and susceptible persons. Such an environment may be created when large numbers of strangers live together in cramped quarters as occurs in college dormitories. Since Northeastern has no dormitories, there is less risk for Northeastern students

The Student Health Service at Northeastern is committed to providing a variety of medical services for our students. These services include a meningitis vaccine for the bacterial form of meningitis for students who wish to protect themselves. The vaccine is available upon request, subject to availability from the manufacturer. There will be a charge of \$82.00 per injection to cover the cost of the vaccine, which is not usually covered by insurance and is not part of the Northeastern Student Health Insurance plan.

For further information about meningitis and the vaccine go to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention web site (www.cdc.gov) or the American College Health Association web site (www.acha.org). If you have any other questions you may also call the Student Health Service office (773-442-5800) or stop by (E-051).

Sincerely,



Jessica Lettow, R.N. MS
Director, Student Health Service