What is meningitis?
The term meningitis refers to an infection of the outer surface of the brain, and can be caused by a number of different bacteria and viruses. College students who live in residence halls or similar kinds of living arrangements (e.g. a fraternity or sorority house) are slightly more at risk for a particular type of bacterial meningitis known as meningococcal meningitis. Although rare, it can be fatal in a minority of cases. Fortunately, vaccines are available which can further lower your risk.

Does the UA require that I get the “meningitis vaccine”?
The UA is not requiring that you get the vaccine against meningococcal meningitis, but strongly recommending that any student who will be living in university (residence halls) or Greek system (fraternity or sorority) housing seriously consider being vaccinated against meningococcal meningitis.

What you need to know
• Although you may have received the meningitis vaccine that protects against serogroups A, C, W and Y, you may need a booster dose of this vaccine if you last received it between ages 11-12.

• There are separate vaccines that protect against serogroup B meningitis (Men B)*

• Two vaccines are available that protect against Men B and both require multiple doses – choose one of them

• Many health insurance plans cover meningitis vaccines for college-aged students

• You can visit the Campus Health Travel and Immunization Clinic to receive these important vaccine

* Remember: you need two different vaccines to protect against the five types of meningitis.

For more info: Call (520) 621-2292 or visit health.arizona.edu/meningitis