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Vaccine against Early Summer Meningitis-Encephalitis (FSME)

(The “Tick Shot”)

Why a vaccine?

This illness can be transmitted by ticks found especially in the wooded areas of Austria including the Vienna Woods, the Wachau, Styria, Carinthia and Burgenland. **The tick vaccine is available to all AIS Vienna students, family members, and faculty members and is strongly recommended.** It is given in February and March of each year. Information about registration is published in the weekly *Scoops* Newsletter in January.

General information

The complete vaccination is a series of three intramuscular injections, preferably given in the cold season (before the tick season), according to the following schedule:

- First and second injection with an interval of 2 weeks to 3 months.
- Third injection after 9 months to 1 year.
- The first booster injection (one single dose) 3 years after the third injection.
- All boosters after the first booster are repeated every 5 years.

Protection starts after the second injection and is complete after the third injection.

Contraindications

- An allergy to chicken protein (egg whites)
- Acute febrile illness (fever).
- Recent exposure to a viral infection (e.g. chickenpox, measles, mumps, etc.).
- Recent recovery from an illness affecting the central nervous system (e.g. polio, meningitis, etc.).
- Severe neuritis (e.g. sciatica, herpes zoster (shingles) etc.).
- A recent tick bite.

It is recommended to allow an interval of one week before having any other immunizations (e.g. polio, yellow fever, cholera, etc.).