

Meningococcal vaccines

ACW-135Y **National Centre for Immunisation Research & Surveillance 2019*

Age	Recommended Brand	Immunisation doses for healthy individuals	Interval between primary doses
6 weeks – 5 months	Menveo or Nimenrix	3 doses	8 weeks between 1st and 2nd doses; 3rd dose at 12 months of age
6-8 months	Menveo or Nimenrix	2 doses	2nd dose at 12 months of age
9-11 months	Menveo, Nimenrix or Menactra	2 doses	2nd dose at 12 months of age or 8 weeks after 1st dose, whichever is later
12-23 months	Menveo	2 doses	8 weeks
	Menactra	2 doses	8 weeks
	Nimenrix	1 dose	Not applicable
More than 2 years	Menactra, Menveo or Nimenrix	1 dose	Less than 6 years of age, 3 years after completion of primary schedule. After 7 years of age, every 5 years after completion of primary schedule.

MENINGOCOCCAL B **National Centre for Immunisation Research & Surveillance 2019*

Age	Number of doses required for primary immunisation	Recommended intervals between doses	Recommended for single booster dose
BEXSERO			
6 weeks – 5 months	3 doses (healthy), 4 doses (increased risk)	8 weeks	Last dose at 12 months
6-11 months	3 doses	8 weeks	8 weeks between 1st and 2nd doses; 3rd dose at 12 months or 8 weeks after 2nd dose, whichever is later
More than 12 months	2 doses	8 weeks	No booster required
TRUMENBA			
More than 10 years	2 doses	6 months	3 doses for high risk groups (4 weeks between 1st and 2nd doses; 3rd dose at least 4 months after 2nd dose and at least 6 months after 1st dose)

Whilst these are the recommended doses outlined by the Federal Health Department, Meningitis Centre Australia advises you discuss the suitability of vaccinations with your own GP or Paediatrician. Those with a specified medical condition should consult their GP for required doses.



For further information about meningitis visit: meningitis.com.au



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Founding member of the Confederation of Meningitis Organisations (CoM0)
www.comomeningitis.org



*Disclaimer: Meningitis Centre Australia is a 'not for profit' organisation based in Australia, not a professional medical authority. Meningitis Centre Australia's literature provides general information about meningitis, not medical advice. Please consult your doctor to discuss the information or if you are concerned someone may be ill.
Produced by Meningitis Centre Australia. Acknowledgements to The Great Southern Aboriginal Health Service, Meningitis Research Foundation, Meningitis Now and NCIRS.
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Meningococcal and Meningitis

Vaccinating against Meningococcal disease



Free Call 1800 250 223

What is meningitis?

Meningitis is an infection of the lining of the brain.
Meningitis can kill very fast, if you don't see a doctor urgently.
It is important to know the signs and get help straight away.

Anyone can get meningitis at any time and any age.

What causes meningitis?

Meningitis can be caused by infection with:

- Virus
- Bacteria (germs)
- Parasites or fungi



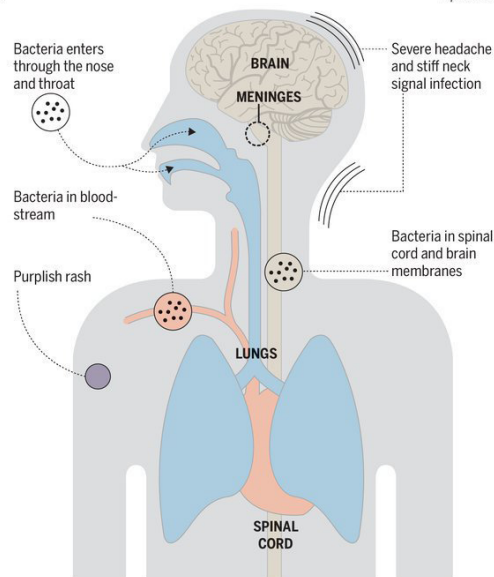
Types of meningitis (continued next panel)

Meningococemia

Blood infection

Meningitis

Spinal cord/brain infection



Source: National Meningitis Association

Types of meningitis (continued)

There are many types and causes of meningitis. They include viral, Meningococcal, Pneumococcal, TB, Hib, Fungal, Mollarets, chemical, Listeria, E.Coli and Group B Streptococcal, just to name a few.

Meningococcal and Pneumococcal are the most common forms of bacterial meningitis in Australia and can usually be prevented through vaccinations.

Viral meningitis is also very common and is caused by different types of viruses with enteroviruses the most common cause. While viral meningitis is not always life threatening, it can be life changing. In many cases, recovery can be slow.



The difference between meningitis and meningococcal

Although referred to broadly as similar diseases, **Meningococcal** is a bacteria that enters the body, however it does not always lead to meningitis.

Meningitis is the inflammation of the lining of the brain and spinal cord. Many people can suffer from meningococcal disease without getting meningitis or the bacteria travelling to the brain.

Septicaemia, also known as blood poisoning and the cause of the rash can also develop, but doesn't always. Don't wait for the rash to occur before seeking medical treatment.

These diseases are extremely serious and need urgent hospital attention.

So WHY vaccinate my child?

There are 5 common bacterial strains of meningococcal disease, they are A, C, W-135, Y and B. Children under the age of 5 years are the most susceptible to catching the disease, because of their underdeveloped immune system. So it is very important to vaccinate them and protect them from this disease which can kill within 24 hours.

Hygiene is also important especially if you have a child at day care, kindy or primary school. Make sure they wash their hands after using the bathroom, don't share food or water bottles and sneeze and cough away from people.

FREE ACWY vaccine for ALL 12 month olds and FREE Men B vaccine for 2,4,6 and 12 month olds for ATSI babies only on the National Immunisation Plan. In South Australia Free Men B for all 6 weeks, 4 and 12 month olds.

WHY vaccinate my teenager or young adult?

There are 5 common bacterial strains of meningococcal disease, they are A, C, W-135, Y and B. This age group is the biggest carrier of the disease because of their social circumstances. The bacteria sits in the back of the nose and throat and when irritated through deep kissing, smoking, sharing of drinks, coughing, and sneezing it can spread to others. If your immunity is low due to illness or late nights you are at more risk of contracting the disease.

FREE ACWY for ALL 14-16 year olds on the National Immunisation Plan. In South Australia FREE Men B for 14-15 year olds or those in Year 10.



Signs and symptoms

	Babies	Children & Adults
 Fever, cold hands and feet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 Vomiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 Tired/floppy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 Blank expression	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 Dislikes being handled	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 Rapid breathing/grunting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 Pale blotchy skin/spots/rash	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 Unusual crying/refuses to feed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 Bulging soft spot on top of head	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Stiff neck/dislikes bright lights	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 Severe headache	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 Fitting/stiff jerking movements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

These are common symptoms and can appear in any order. Some may not appear at all. Don't wait for a rash. **If concerned, see a doctor immediately.**