

Meningococcal vaccines

ACW-135Y *National Centre for Immunisation Research & Surveillance 2018

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 or 8 weeks after 1st dose, whichever is later
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	Required every 5 years only for travellers and laboratory personnel facing ongoing risks.

Meningococcal B *National Centre for Immunisation Research & Surveillance 2018

Age	Number of doses required for primary immunisation	Recommended intervals between doses	Recommended for single booster dose
BEXSERO			
6 weeks – 5 months	4 doses	8 weeks	8 weeks between doses; 4th 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.

For further information about meningitis visit:

meningitis.com.au



**MENINGITIS
CENTRE
AUSTRALIA**

*Raising awareness.
Every second counts.*

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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 and Meningitis Now.

Meningococcal and Meningitis

What You Need To Know



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Age	Disease
CHILDHOOD VACCINATIONS	
Birth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hepatitis B (usually offered in hospital)^a
2 months <i>Can be given from 6 weeks of age</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), hepatitis B, polio, Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) Pneumococcal Rotavirus^b
4 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), hepatitis B, polio, Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) Pneumococcal Rotavirus^b
6 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), hepatitis B, polio, Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)
<i>Additional vaccines for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children (QLD, NT, WA and SA) and medically at-risk children^c</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pneumococcal
12 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meningococcal ACWY Measles, mumps, rubella Pneumococcal
<i>Additional vaccines for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children (QLD, NT, WA and SA)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hepatitis A
18 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) Measles, mumps, rubella, varicella (chickenpox) Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough)
4 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio
<i>Additional vaccines for medically at-risk children^c</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pneumococcal
ADOLESCENT VACCINATIONS	
10- <15 years <i>(School programs^d)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human papillomavirus (HPV)^e Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough)
ADULT VACCINATIONS	
15 years and over <i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and medically at-risk people^c</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pneumococcal
50 years and over <i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pneumococcal
65 years and over	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pneumococcal
70-79 years ^f	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shingles (herpes zoster)
Pregnant women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pertussis (whooping cough)^g Influenza^h

^a Hepatitis B vaccine: Should be given to all infants as soon as practicable after birth. The greatest benefit is if given within 24 hours, and must be given within 7 days. ^b Rotavirus vaccine: First dose must be given by 14 weeks of age, the second dose by 24 weeks of age. ^c Refer to the current edition of The Australian Immunisation Handbook for all medical risk factors. ^d Contact your state or territory health service for school grades eligible for vaccination. ^e Observe Gardasil[®]9 dosing schedules by age and at-risk conditions. 2 doses: 9 to <15 years - 6 months minimum interval. 3 doses: ≥15 years and/or have certain medical conditions - 0, 2 and 6 month schedule. Only 2 doses funded on the NIP unless 12-13 year old has certain medical risk factors. ^f All people aged 70 years old, with a five year catch-up program for people aged 71-79 years old until 31 October 2021. ^g Single dose recommended each pregnancy, ideally between 28-32 weeks, but may be given up until delivery. ^h Refer to annual influenza information for recommended vaccine brand for age.

How do I know if I have meningitis?

	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. If concerned, see a doctor immediately.

Types of meningitis (continued)

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 (Please see the tables for the National Immunisation Program and Meningococcal vaccines for further information).



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.



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:

- A virus
- Bacteria (germs)
- Parasites or fungi



Types of meningitis (continued next panel)

There are many types and causes of meningitis. They include viral, bacterial, Meningococcal, Pneumococcal, TB, Hib, Fungal,

