

KNOW THE SIGNS & SYMPTOMS

Early symptoms of meningococcal disease may appear mild – similar to those of a cold or the flu. However, symptoms can progress quickly and may include:¹⁵



High fever



Stiff neck



Dislike bright lights



Vomiting



Sleepiness



Sometimes, red or purple spots or bruises on the skin

Additional symptoms in babies may include:

Cold hands and feet or shivering, being floppy or harder to wake, unusual crying and refusal to eat.

Additional symptoms in older children and adults may include:

Headache, confusion, joint pain and aching muscles.

Don't wait for spots to appear before getting medical help. Seek medical attention immediately if you see one or more of the symptoms above¹⁵

FOR MORE INFORMATION



0800 611 116
24 hours a day



0800 466 863
www.immune.org.nz



www.meningitis.org.nz

MENINGITISB.CO.NZ



Meningococcal B (commonly known as meningitis) can change life in a moment^{1,2}



Thankfully, **Bexsero** is available to help protect against it.³

1.van Deuren M, et al. *Clin Microbiol Rev*. 2000;13(1):144–166. 2.Thompson MJ, et al. *Lancet* 2006; 367(9508): 397–403. 3.GlaxoSmithKline NZ. *Bexsero* Data Sheet 2018. Available at: <http://www.medsafe.govt.nz/profs/Datasheet/b/bexseroinj.pdf> Accessed: 15 August 2018. 4.Immunisation Advisory Centre. *Bexsero: A vaccine to protect against meningococcal group B disease Fact Sheet*. Available at <http://www.immune.org.nz/sites/default/files/resources/Written%20Resources/NonprogrammeVaccineBexseroImac20180912V01Final.pdf>. Accessed 15 September 2018. 5.Rosenstein NE, et al. *N Engl J Med* 2001; 344(18): 1378–88. 6.The Institute of Environmental Science and Research. *Notifiable Diseases in New Zealand Annual Report 2016*. Available at: https://surv.esr.cri.nz/PDF_surveillance/AnnualRpt/AnnualSurv/2016/2016AnnualNDRReportFinal.pdf Accessed: 3rd July 2018. 7.Christiansen H, et al. *Lancet Infect Dis* 2010;10:853–61. 8.Ministry of Health, Wellington. *Meningococcal disease (including meningitis). Summary Tab*. Available at: <https://www.health.govt.nz/your-health/conditions-and-treatments/diseases-and-illnesses/meningococcal-disease-including-meningitis> Accessed 12 July 2018. 9.The Institute of Environmental Science and Research. *The Epidemiology of Meningococcal Disease in NZ 2008-2013 Surveillance Reports*. Available at: https://surv.esr.cri.nz/surveillance/Meningococcal_disease.php Accessed: 3rd July 2018. 10.The Institute of Environmental Science and Research. *Notifiable Diseases in New Zealand Annual Surveillance Reports 2014-2016*. Available at: https://surv.esr.cri.nz/surveillance/annual_surveillance.php Accessed: 3rd July 2018. 11.The Institute of Environmental Science and Research. *Meningococcal disease epidemiology data request*. GSK. 2017. 12.Immunisation Advisory Centre. *NZ National Immunisation Schedule*. Available at: <http://www.immune.org.nz/new-zealand-national-immunisation-schedule> Accessed: 3rd July 2018. 13.Ministry of Health. *Immunisation Handbook 2017 (2nd Edition, March 2018)*. Available at <https://www.health.govt.nz/publication/immunisation-handbook-2017>. Accessed 14 August 2018. 14.Centres for Disease Control and Prevention website. *Meningococcal disease*. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/meningococcal/about/prevention.html>. Accessed 11 July 2018. 15.Ministry of Health. *Meningococcal Disease – Don't Wait Take Action*. Available at: <https://www.healthed.govt.nz/resource/meningococcal-disease-dont-wait-take-action> Accessed 15 August 2018

Bexsero® (Multicomponent Meningococcal group B Vaccine) is available as an injection. *Bexsero* is for immunisation against invasive disease caused by *N. meningitidis* group B from 2 months of age or as per official recommendations. *Bexsero* is available as a private-purchase prescription medicine – you will have to pay normal doctor's visit fees and a prescription charge. A trained pharmacist can also administer *Bexsero* to a person aged 16 years and older. A 0.5 mL dose contains contains 50mcg of *Neisseria meningitidis* Group B *Neisseria* Heparin Binding Antigen fusion protein, 50mcg of *Neisseria meningitidis* Group B *Neisseria* Adhesin A protein, 50mcg of *Neisseria meningitidis* Group B Factor H Binding Protein fusion protein, 25 mcg of Outer membrane vesicles (OMV) from *Neisseria meningitidis* group B strain NZ98/254 measured as amount of total protein containing the PorA P1.4. *Bexsero* has risks and benefits. ***Bexsero* should not be administered** if you or your child are hypersensitive to any component of this vaccine **Common side effects** Infants & Toddlers: eating disorders, sleepiness, unusual crying, diarrhoea, vomiting, rash, fever ($\geq 39.5^{\circ}\text{C}$), injection site reactions, irritability, arthralgia. Adolescents & Adults: headache, nausea, injection site reactions, malaise, myalgia, arthralgia. If you or your child have side effects, see your doctor, pharmacist, or health professional. Additional Consumer Medicine Information for *Bexsero* is available at www.medsafe.govt.nz. **Ask your doctor if *Bexsero* is right for you or your child.** *Bexsero* is a registered trade mark of the GlaxoSmithKline group of companies. Marketed by GlaxoSmithKline NZ Limited, Auckland. TAPS NA10450/18SE/VAC/0018/18. GSK00691

Adverse events involving GlaxoSmithKline products should be reported to GSK Medical Information on 0800 808 500.

A parent's guide to understanding meningococcal B disease



WHAT IS MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE?

Meningococcal disease is an uncommon but serious infection caused by the bacteria *Neisseria meningitidis*. A person with meningococcal disease can develop meningitis (inflammation of the membrane around the brain), septicaemia (blood infection) or pneumonia. It strikes and progresses quickly - usually without warning.^{2,4}

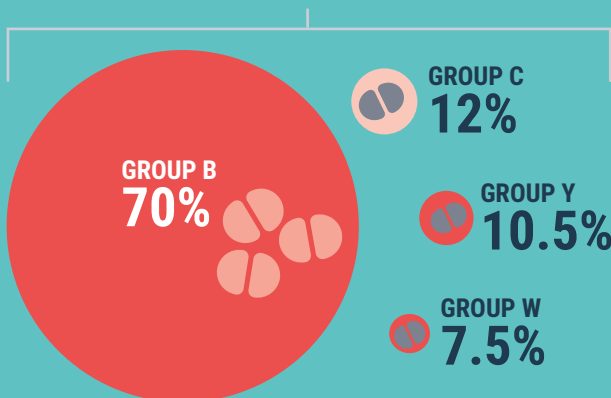
ABOUT 1 IN 10 INFECTED WITH MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE CAN DIE, SOMETIMES WITHIN 24 HOURS^{2,4,5}

And up to 1 in 5 can suffer from serious long-term disabilities, including brain damage, deafness, and limb loss.^{4,5}



70% OF MENINGOCOCCAL CASES IN NEW ZEALAND ARE CAUSED BY GROUP B^{6*}

There are several different groups of meningococcal bacteria, of which there are five groups that most commonly cause disease (A, B, C, W and Y).⁹ In 2016, reported cases of meningococcal disease in New Zealand were caused by:^{6*}



* of those cases that could be typed, 2016 ESR data.

HOW IS IT SPREAD?

The bacteria that cause meningococcal disease live within the nose and throat. Around 10 - 20% of people will carry the bacteria at any one time, without ever becoming ill.⁷

They can be spread through everyday behaviours, including:⁸



Coughing & sneezing



Sharing drinks & eating utensils



Living in close quarters



Kissing

WHO'S AT RISK?

Anyone can get meningococcal B, however babies and children under 5 are at most risk, followed by teens.^{9,10}



Babies



Under 5s



Teens



In New Zealand, over half of meningococcal B cases occur in children under 5 years of age.¹¹

IS YOUR CHILD OR TEEN PROTECTED AGAINST MENINGOCOCCAL B?

Probably not. The New Zealand National Immunisation Schedule does not currently include a vaccine to protect against meningococcal B.¹²



Some people would have received the MeNZBTM vaccine between 2004 and 2008. MeNZB was temporarily introduced in New Zealand to control an epidemic of meningococcal B. The protection from this vaccine was not long-lasting, so these people are unlikely to still be protected against meningococcal B.¹³

MOST NEW ZEALANDERS ARE NOT CURRENTLY PROTECTED AGAINST MENINGOCOCCAL B

BEXSERO IS A VACCINE THAT CAN HELP PROTECT AGAINST MENINGOCOCCAL B³

Bexsero is given by injection and the number of doses needed depends on the age of the person being vaccinated.³

Bexsero is not currently included on the New Zealand National Immunisation Schedule so you will need to pay for *Bexsero*.¹²

As with other vaccines, *Bexsero* has benefits and risks.³

Ask your healthcare professional about vaccination with *Bexsero* to help protect against meningococcal B.³