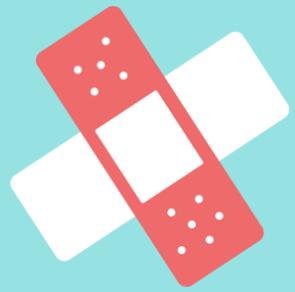


MENINGITIS VACCINES CURRENTLY AVAILABLE IN NEW ZEALAND



Prepared March 2019

MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE

There are a number of meningococcal vaccines which protect against different strains of the disease but none of them provide long-term protection. The vaccines listed below tend to last around 3–5 years.

Even if you have been immunised in the past you may still not be protected against the disease. It's important therefore that you're aware of the signs and symptoms of meningococcal disease, and seek medical advice quickly if you're concerned.

There are two main types of meningococcal vaccine available in New Zealand:

- Meningococcal B vaccine, a recombinant vaccine for use in babies through to adults.
- 'Conjugate' meningococcal vaccines – two vaccines which protect against A, C, Y, and W135 meningococcal bacteria and a vaccine which protects against group C only. The ages at which these vaccines can be given varies depending on the vaccine used.

In most cases these vaccines are recommended but NOT funded by the government. Talk to your nurse or doctor about availability and cost.

1 MENINGOCOCCAL B

In 2018, the vaccine BEXSERO was approved for use in New Zealand. (This is different to the MeNZB vaccine used in New Zealand from 2004 - 2008.) Babies younger than six months of age need three doses to be fully protected. Older babies, children and adults need two doses. Cost is approx. \$150 per dose.

2 MENINGOCOCCAL A,C,W&Y

There are two conjugate vaccines approved in New Zealand - MENACTRA and NIMENRIX. MENACTRA is approved for use for those aged nine months to 55 years. NIMENRIX is approved for those aged 12 months to 55 years. Cost is approx. \$150 per dose.

3 MENINGOCOCCAL C

A separate conjugate meningococcal C vaccine, which protects against group C meningococcal bacteria alone is also available. It is called NEISVAC-C. This can be used for children under two years of age. Babies under 12 months need three doses to be protected. Children over 12 months and adults need one dose to be protected. This vaccine lasts two to three years in children under six years of age and around five years in adults and children over six years of age. Cost is approx. \$98 per dose.

PNEUMOCOCCAL DISEASE

All babies in New Zealand can be immunised against pneumococcal disease as part of their FREE childhood immunisations at 6 weeks, 3 months, 5 months and 15 months old.

4 PNEUMOCOCCAL DISEASE

The vaccine used is SYNFLORIX, which covers the 10 most common pneumococcal types that cause disease in infants and young children.

Children and adults with particular medical conditions that increase their risk of pneumococcal disease are eligible for funded pneumococcal immunisation with PREVENAR-13. For more information about eligible medical conditions and vaccines, talk to your nurse or doctor.