

Protect your baby with the right dose of the Meningococcal Meningitis vaccine, at the right time¹

To fully protect your baby, they must receive 2 doses of the vaccine between the ages of 9 to 23 months.¹ Delaying a second dose when recommended means your infant will not be optimally protected.^{5,6,7}

Babies from 9 to 23 months old



2 doses, given 12 weeks apart¹

FACT:

Vaccination is a successful intervention for **preventing Meningococcal Meningitis** and the devastating effects it can have on your baby.⁵

**Protect your baby
2-day with 2 doses under 2-years!**

Always consult your healthcare provider for any questions about Meningococcal Meningitis and/or vaccination.



References: 1. Meiring S, Hussey G, Jeena P, et al. Recommendations for the use of meningococcal vaccines in South Africa, *Southern African Journal of Infectious Diseases* 2017;32(3):82-86. 2. Batista RS, Gomes AP, Gazineo JLD, et al. Meningococcal disease, a clinical and epidemiological review. *Asian Pacific Journal of Tropical Medicine* 2017;10(11):1019-1029. 3. American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Infectious Diseases. Prevention and control of meningococcal disease: recommendations for use of meningococcal vaccines in pediatric patients. *Pediatrics* 2005;116(2):496-505. 4. Moore J. Meningococcal Disease Section 3: Diagnosis and Management: MeningoNI Forum. *The Ulster Medical Journal* 2018;87:94-98. 5. Zunt JR, Kassebaum NJ, Blake N, et al, on behalf GBD 2016 Meningitis Collaborators. Global, regional, and national burden of meningitis, 1990-2016: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2016. *Lancet Neurol* 2018;17:1061-1082. 6. Nadel S. Prospects for eradication of meningococcal disease. *Arch Dis Child* 2012;97:993-998. 7. Noya F, McCormack D, Reynolds D, et al. Safety and immunogenicity of two doses of quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine or one dose of meningococcal group C conjugate vaccine, both administered concomitantly with routine immunization to 12- to 18-month-old children. *Can J Infect Dis Med Microbiol* 2014;25(4):211-216.

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Meningococcal Meningitis - a potentially devastating but preventable infection^{1,2}



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MENINGOCOCCAL MENINGITIS

Meningococcal Meningitis

Meningococcal Meningitis is an infection caused by a bacteria, *Neisseria meningitidis*, and is spread from person-to-person via exposure to infected respiratory droplets (e.g. sneezing, coughing or kissing).^{1,2} **The disease is life-threatening** and can result in **long-term complications**.^{1,2} It is also known for its potential to cause outbreaks or epidemics, with the impact being greatest on babies.²



Babies under 12 months of age have the highest incidence of Meningococcal Meningitis infection.³



Meningococcal Meningitis is spread through close personal contact, which puts infants and children in daycare, pre-primary classes and play groups at high risk of contracting the disease.²



What are the risks?

The consequences of acquiring Meningococcal Meningitis can be devastating.¹ **This disease can be fatal.**¹ Early diagnosis is very important as a healthy child can die within 24 hours of the first appearance of **symptoms** (e.g. sore throat, cough, runny nose, fever, vomiting, skin rash - but these **do not always appear in babies, until it's too late to treat them**).^{2,4}



For survivors of this disease, there may be life-long consequences.¹ These include:^{1,2}



Loss of limbs/amputation



Brain disorders



Hearing loss



Prevention is critical^{5,6}

FACT:

Meningococcal Meningitis is **PREVENTABLE**.¹

FACT:

BABIES are particularly vulnerable because of the relative immaturity of their immune systems.⁶

FACT:

All healthy infants must be vaccinated with 2 doses of the Meningococcal Meningitis vaccine before they are 2 years of age.¹

FACT:

The Meningococcal Meningitis vaccine is recommended for use in persons **from 9 months of age**.¹