



Meningococcal Invasive Disease

Report a case or suspect case **within 24 hours** to local public health

Additional Information:

There are some high-risk groups that may be recommended to receive these vaccinations at earlier times or together. Consult a health care provider for more information.

Serious complications such as hearing loss, neurological deficits, and death may result from delays in seeking medical attention.

Meningitis may also be caused by other bacteria (e.g., *Haemophilus influenzae*) or viruses (viral meningitis). See *Haemophilus influenzae*: Invasive Disease and Meningitis (Viral).

Identify children who are susceptible to meningococcal invasive disease by reviewing their immunization histories.

Resources

- [ADHS Meningococcal Invasive Disease Fact Sheet](#)
- [CDC Meningococcal Invasive Disease](#)

Meningococcal disease is a bacterial illness caused by *Neisseria meningitidis*.

Symptoms can include:

- Fever
- Headache or stiff neck
- Nausea/vomiting
- Eye sensitivity to light
- Altered mental status
- Rash

Incubation Period	1–10 days
Contagious Period	As long as the bacteria are present in nose, throat and mouth secretions.

Recommended Actions

Isolate, exclude and refer to a health care provider. Immediate medical attention is required.

Cases:

Exclude until the individual is symptom-free, receives antibiotic treatment, and the local health department or health care provider indicates the individual may return.

Contacts:

A local health agency shall evaluate the level of risk of transmission from each contact's exposure to a meningococcal invasive disease case and, if indicated, provide or arrange for each contact to receive prophylaxis.

Please see [Arizona Administrative Code R9-6-352](#) for specific language.

If you have questions please call public health for assistance and recommendations.

Transmission

Transmission occurs from contact with secretions from the nose, mouth, and throat of an infected person.

Prevention

MenACWY is routinely recommended at 11-12 years with a booster at 16-18 years.

Some physicians may choose to give meningococcal B vaccine to 16-23 year olds.

[CDC Updated Vaccine Schedule](#)

[Back to the top](#)

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