WHAT IS MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE?

Meningococcal disease, which includes meningitis B, is an uncommon, but potentially deadly disease.² It’s a bacterial infection that causes inflammation of the protective membranes covering the brain and spinal cord.³ Recent outbreaks of meningitis B on college campuses in the US have shown the seriousness of the disease.

After reading through this information, share it with your friends and family. You should also talk to a healthcare provider to help ensure you’re protected.

Meningococcal Disease 101

5 common forms of the bacteria that cause meningococcal disease in the US are groups A, C, Y, W, and B.⁴

~40% of meningococcal disease cases in US teens and young adults are caused by group B.⁵

Early symptoms can be misinterpreted as the flu, but meningococcal disease can turn deadly in 24 hours.²,⁶

Long-term impact of meningococcal disease includes⁷:

- Speech problems
- Amputations
- Brain damage
- Vision loss
- Motor impairment

See the reverse side to learn more about who is at risk of this potentially deadly disease and why.
ARE YOU AT RISK OF GETTING MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE?

Know the Risk

**Typical teen behavior** puts you at increased risk of meningococcal disease. This behavior includes:

- Close-quartered living and group hangouts
- Sharing drinks, cups, or utensils
- Kissing

![3x](image)

The incidence of meningococcal disease among college freshmen living in dorms in the United States is more than 3x what it is for those aged 18 to 23 years in the general population.

1 in 10 teens and young adults who develop meningococcal disease die from it.

![1 in 10](image)

3 in 5 teen survivors of meningococcal disease may experience significant physical and mental disabilities.

Help protect yourself. Vaccines are available to help protect yourself against meningococcal meningitis A, C, W, and Y, as well as B, in the US.

Talk to your campus health services, pharmacist, or healthcare provider about how to help protect yourself, and visit [MeetMeningitis.com](http://www.MeetMeningitis.com) for more information.

References:

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