

# Meningococcal Disease causes Meningitis

Don't wait – take action

Even if you think the person has been immunised.

- Meningococcal disease is fast and can kill or cause serious disability.
- Get help **immediately** if you see one or more of the symptoms below.
- These meningococcal disease symptoms may not all show at once.

## Symptoms in babies



**High fever** (may also have cool hands and feet or shivering)



**Sleepy or floppy or harder to wake**



**Unusual crying**



**Stiff neck**



**Dislike bright lights**



**Vomiting**



**Refusal to feed**



**Sometimes, red or purple spots or bruises on the skin**

## Symptoms in older children and adults



**High fever and headache**



**Confusion and sleepiness**



**Joint pain and aching muscles**



**Stiff neck**



**Dislike bright lights**



**Vomiting**



**Sometimes, red or purple spots or bruises on the skin**

Not everyone with meningococcal disease gets spots. Don't wait for spots to appear before getting medical help.



You can call Healthline free 24 hours a day: **0800 611 116**

# Don't wait – take action

If you or someone in your household is sick with one or more of the symptoms shown over the page, take action immediately.

- There are different types of meningococcal disease. People can still get meningococcal disease even if they have been immunised against one type of meningococcal disease.
- Babies and children are not routinely immunised against meningococcal disease.

Act immediately even if you're not sure it's meningococcal disease.

If it is an emergency, call 111 and ask for an ambulance.

Ring a doctor, medical or after-hours-centre or the free Healthline number (0800 611 116) **right away**, day or night.

Say what the symptoms are.

If a person has been sent home by the doctor, they must still be watched. Don't leave them alone.

If the person gets worse, go straight back to a doctor or the hospital. **Insist on immediate action.** Take this card with you if it helps you explain what is wrong.

 You can call Healthline free 24 hours a day: **0800 611 116** – even if you have already been seen by a doctor or nurse.