

PROTECTION FROM MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE FOR OLDER CHILDREN

What is Meningococcal Disease?

Meningococcal diseases are caused by a bacteria (germ) called meningococcus. This bacterium can cause meningitis, an infection affecting the brain and spinal cord, septemia (infection of the blood and organs), and can result in permanent brain damage, organ failure and even death.

Who should get Meningococcal vaccine?

In Newfoundland and Labrador this meningococcal vaccine is publicly funded for all grade 4 students who did not previously get the vaccine as an infant.

Are there side effects from Meningococcal vaccine?

Some people have a sore arm (redness, tender, swollen) at the site of the injection, headache, fatigue or fever for a day or two.

Who should not get the vaccine?

Students currently sick with an illness more serious than a cold
Students allergic to any part of the vaccine or its container
Students with a history of Guillain-Barré syndrome

What you should know about this Meningococcal vaccine.

The vaccine ...

- Is very safe and very effective in preventing disease.
- Protects against *N. meningitis* types A, C, Y, and W-135.

For additional information and services
contact your Regional Health Authority
listed in the white pages of your telephone
book.