MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE FACT SHEET

What is meningococcal disease?

Meningococcal disease is caused by bacteria called Neisseria meningitidis. It can lead to serious blood infections. When the linings of the brain and spinal cord become inflamed, it is called meningitis. The disease strikes quickly and can have serious complications, including death.

Anyone can get meningococcal disease. Some people are at higher risk. This disease occurs more often in people who are:

- Teenagers or young adults
- Infants younger than one year of age
- Living in crowded settings, such as college dormitories or military barracks
- Traveling to areas outside of the United States, such as the
- · Living with a damaged spleen or no spleen
- · Being treated with Soliris® or, who have complement

Exposed during an outbreak

Working with meningococcal bacteria in a laboratory

What are the symptoms?

Symptoms appear suddenly usually 3 to 4 days after a person is infected. It can take up to 10 days to develop symptoms. Symptoms may include:

· A sudden high fever

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