

Meningococcal Meningitis

Is your teen at risk?

Adolescence is a time of great expression. But unfortunately, it's also the time when teens and young adults are at increased risk for contracting meningococcal disease (including meningitis), a rare but potentially fatal illness.¹

Does your child engage in activities such as...

- Living in close quarters, such as dormitories?
- Being in crowded situations for prolonged periods of time?
- Sharing drinking glasses, eating utensils, water bottles?
- Kissing?
- Smoking or inhaling secondhand smoke?
- Engaging in activities that may weaken the immune system, such as staying out late and having irregular sleeping patterns?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you have a typical teenager whose activities may increase his or her risk of contracting meningococcal disease.²⁻⁴ The best way to protect your child against this risk is with a single vaccination.

Ask your health-care provider today about ways to protect your teen against meningococcal disease.

www.fightmeningitis.com
Don't leave them unprotected

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References: 1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Summary of notifiable diseases—United States, 1996–2002. *MMWR*. 1997; 45:10; 1998; 46:10; 1999; 47:12; 2001; 48:12; 2002; 49:12; 2003; 50:15; 2004; 51:28. 2. Granoff DM, Feavers IM, Borrow R. Meningococcal vaccines. In: Plotkin SA, ed. *Vaccines*. 4th ed. Philadelphia, Pa: WB Saunders Co.; 2004: 959-987. 3. Information and help on Meningococcal Meningitis. <http://meningitis.com/?idcat=13>. Accessed June 6, 2005. 4. National Meningitis Association. About Meningitis. http://www.nmaus.org/about_meningitis/index.htm. Accessed June 6, 2005.

