

#24YOUHAVETHEPOWER TIP SHEET

MENINGITIS CAN BE FATAL IN 24 HOURS¹

24 : 00 : 00

This tip sheet provides information on Invasive Meningococcal Disease (IMD). IMD includes meningitis (an inflammation of the brain and spinal cord) and blood poisoning (septicaemia) caused by meningococcal bacteria. The word meningitis is used to encompass all forms of IMD in this tip sheet.

TOP 6 Reasons for Adolescents and Young Adults to Get Vaccinated Against Meningitis

- 1** Meningitis can be deadly within 24 hours¹.
- 2** It can be hard even for doctors to recognise the early symptoms of meningitis; it can look like the flu².
- 3** The bacteria that causes meningitis can spread via normal behaviours^{1,3} like kissing or sharing drinks.
- 4** Even if you survive meningitis or other forms of IMD, you can be left with long-term medical disabilities⁴.
- 5** Vaccines are available to help protect against the most common groups (ACWY and B) of meningococcal bacteria⁴.
- 6** Meningitis is uncommon but unpredictable and can be fatal; why risk it when vaccination can help prevent it?



This material was produced and funded by 

PP-VAC-GBR-0452

©2017 Pfizer Ltd.

All rights reserved.

October 2017

REFERENCES

1. World Health Organization. Meningococcal meningitis, fact sheet No.141, November 2015.
2. Thompson MJ, et al. Clinical recognition of meningococcal disease in children and adolescents. *Lancet*. 2006;367:397-403.
3. Tully J, et al. Risk and protective factors for meningococcal disease in adolescents: matched cohort study. *BMJ*. 2006;445-450.
4. Meningococcal disease. University of Oxford Vaccine Knowledge Project. MenACWY Vaccine.