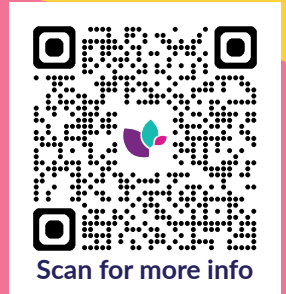


# School Based Immunisation Program

Meningococcal ACWY and B



Scan for more info

[nt.gov.au/wellbeing/healthy-living/immunisation/child-vaccinations](https://nt.gov.au/wellbeing/healthy-living/immunisation/child-vaccinations)

## Meningococcal disease

Meningococcal disease is a rare but severe infection that occurs when meningococcal bacteria invades the body from the nose or throat through close prolonged contact.

Most people with meningococcal infection fully recover but some people can develop long-term health complications including:



**limb deformity**



**skin scarring**



**deafness**



**and brain damage**

It is fatal in 5-10% of cases.

Vaccination protects young people against the different types (strains) of meningococcal disease. This includes one vaccine dose to protect against the ACWY strains of meningococcal disease and two vaccine doses 8 weeks apart to protect against the B strain of meningococcal.

## Eligibility

In the Northern Territory, the meningococcal ACWY and B vaccines are available to all adolescents in Year 9 and up to 19 years of age.

If your child cannot be vaccinated at school or misses out because of illness or absence, you can visit a health clinic, pharmacy or GP for vaccination. The vaccine is free; however you may be charged a consultant fee. To keep your child protected, missed vaccines need to be caught up as soon as possible.

If your adolescent has already received meningococcal vaccines under the age of 14 years, it is recommended they receive further doses at 14 years and over to remain protected.

## What to expect post-vaccine

For 1-2 days after having the vaccine you may experience:



**a sore arm where the needle was given**



**a headache**



**sore muscles**



**a temperature**



**tiredness or feeling unwell**

A cool cloth on the injection site and taking some paracetamol will relieve symptoms. Severe allergic reactions are very rare.



If you need an interpreter we can book one for you.