

MENINGOCOCCAL (INFANT & CHILD)

What to watch out for
and what to do next

1 Home

if has fever, is crying & unsettled. **Keep an eye on them at all times.**

Call Healthline on **0800 611 116** if worried

2 General Practice (GP)

if refusing feeds - food and fluids; vomits; upset tummy or if symptoms getting worse.

Do not leave them alone.

3 ED (Emergency Department)

if sleepy or floppy, or harder to wake; has stiff neck; dislikes bright lights; has rash or spots.

Please note: Your child may not have all the symptoms above.

Symptoms can progress very rapidly, often within 24 hours.

**YOU NEED TO ACT FAST....
DON'T WAIT, TAKE ACTION.**

If your child is cleared by a doctor but you're still concerned, be vigilant.

DO NOT LEAVE THEM ALONE.

**HIGH
ALERT**

MENINGOCOCCAL

Meningococcal disease is an infection that causes two very serious illnesses: meningitis (an infection of the membranes that cover the brain) and septicemia (blood poisoning).

What to do

- If your baby or child has a fever and is crying or unsettled, keep them at home for rest and pain relief if needed (Pamol). Check dosage instructions.
- Keep an eye on them at all times.
- Ring Healthline free on 0800 611 116, anytime day or night.

When to get help

Call your general practice (GP) or after hours service if:

- They are refusing feeds (if infant), food and fluids
- They vomit and/or upset tummy
- Symptoms are getting worse rapidly
- Call Healthline free on 0800 611 116 if worried, anytime day or night, even if you have already seen your GP.

Take your child or baby to ED if:

- You can't get a same-day appointment with your general practice for the symptoms listed above
- They are sleepy, floppy or harder to wake
- They have a stiff neck
- They dislike bright lights, turns away from light
- They have a rash or spots

Insist on immediate action – don't be put off – a life might be at risk. Early treatment of meningococcal with antibiotics can save lives.

For more information about meningococcal, visit manageme.org.nz or healthnavigator.org.nz.

For vaccination options, contact your general practice or phone **0800 775 001, option 1**