



HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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# Meningococcal C Conjugate Vaccine (e.g., Menjugate®)

## What is it?

- Meningococcal C conjugate (Men-C-C) vaccine protects against the C strain of the bacteria that causes invasive meningococcal disease (IMD). IMD can cause swelling of the lining of the brain and spinal cord (meningitis) and/or a blood infection. IMD can lead to serious illness or in some cases death. For more information, see Facts About...Meningitis.
- Menjugate<sup>®</sup> and NeisVac-C<sup>®</sup> are Men-C-C vaccines that are approved for use in Canada.
- Men-C-C vaccines do not protect against other strains of meningococcal bacteria (A, B, Y and W135). There are other vaccines available in Canada to protect against these strains. Talk to your health care provider for more information.

## Who should receive the vaccine?

Men-C-C vaccine is part of the routine infant immunization schedule (given on or after the first birthday) and is publicly funded (free) for people who have not been immunized.

Under the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014,* one dose of Men-C-C vaccine is **required** for children attending child care in Ontario unless they have a valid exemption\*.

Under the *Immunization of School Pupils Act*, one dose of Men-C-C vaccine is **required** for children who are less than 12 years of age and attending school in Ontario unless they have a valid exemption\*.

## Are there side effects with the vaccine?

The most common reported side effects are:

- Redness, pain and swelling where the needle was given
- Headache
- Fussiness in children
- Fatigue

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For more information Durham Region Health Department

905-668-2020 1-800-841-2729 durham.ca

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.



Meningococcal C Conjugate Vaccine



Side effects are usually mild and last only a short time. A cold, wet compress applied to the injection site and/or acetaminophen can be used to help relieve pain, swelling, and/or mild fever after vaccination.

Severe allergic reactions after vaccination are very rare and may not be related to the vaccine. However, if you think a serious reaction is developing, seek medical attention right away. Any unusual or significant changes in your health or your child's health after the immunization should be reported to a health care provider and the Health Department.

#### Who should NOT get the vaccine?

- People who have received a meningococcal conjugate vaccine within the past 4 weeks.
- If you have any medical conditions, discuss with a health care provider to determine if you should receive the vaccine.
- People who are sick with a high fever or serious infection worse than a cold should wait until they feel better.
- Anyone who has had an allergic or severe reaction to a previous dose of any vaccine (talk to your health care provider).
- Any component in a vaccine may be a potential allergen. The most common allergens for Men-C-C vaccines are:
  - Menjugate<sup>®</sup>: diphtheria CRM-197 toxoid carrier protein and latex
  - NeisVac-C<sup>®</sup>: tetanus toxoid carrier protein
- For more information on contents of vaccine refer to the <u>Canadian Immunization Guide</u>, <u>Evergreen Edition</u>

#### Don't forget to update your record of protection

After you or your child receives a vaccine, update your immunization record (yellow card). For children in school or child care, please call the Health Department to update your child's immunization record. Keep immunization records in a safe place!

\*Parents must contact the Health Department if you object to immunization based on conscious or religious beliefs, or if your child cannot be immunized for medical reasons.

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For more information Durham Region Health Department 905-66**8-2020** 1-800-841-2729 durham.ca If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.