

It's serious: Meningococcal disease, though rare, can cripple or kill, often without warning.

- **Unpredictable** – most cases occur at random, not in outbreaks; transmitted in crowded settings
- **Sudden onset** – difficult to diagnose; mimics symptoms of common illnesses
- **Rapidly progresses** – can lead to shock, coma, and death within 24 hours
- Even with proper treatment of those who are infected, **about 15% die**¹
- 10%–20% of survivors suffer **lifelong disability** (brain damage, amputation of arms or legs, or hearing loss)¹

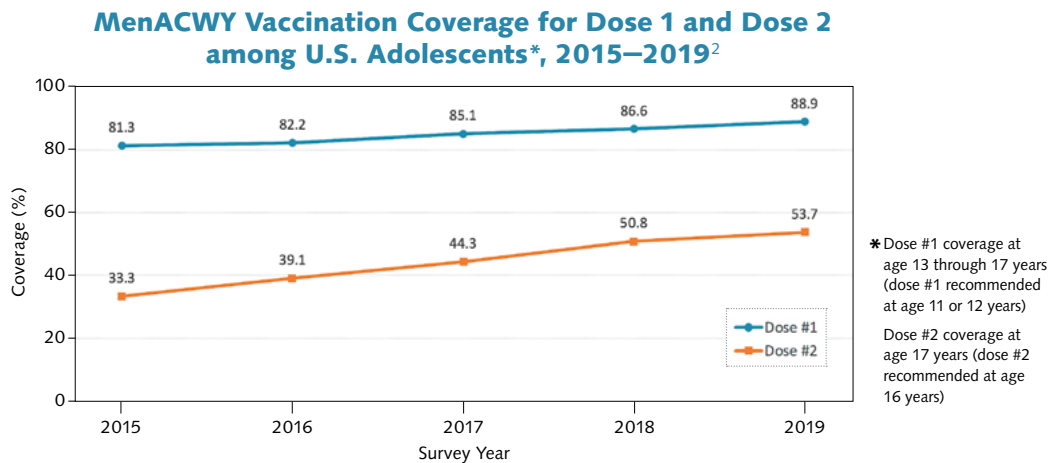
It affects all ages, but especially adolescents and young adults.

- 16 through 20 year olds have the highest risk among people older than 1 year of age¹

It's preventable: Meningococcal ACWY vaccine (MenACWY*) is safe, effective, and recommended.

- **Not 1 shot but 2:** First dose of MenACWY at 11 or 12 years of age (*recommended since 2005*) **AND**
- **A second dose at 16 years of age** (*recommended since 2010*)

Although coverage with the first dose of MenACWY was high through 2019, second dose coverage has lagged far behind.



- Timely vaccination remains a challenge in meningococcal disease prevention. **Almost half of those eligible for the second dose at 16 years of age had not received it by 17 years of age.**²

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- ▶ Recognize the increased risk of meningococcal disease in your adolescent patients.
- ▶ Make sure your adolescent patients (including those who are not college-bound) are vaccinated against meningococcal disease.
- ▶ Give the first dose of MenACWY at 11 or 12 years of age and the second dose at 16 years of age.

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* MenACWY is a vaccine that helps protect against meningococcal disease resulting from infection with serogroups A, C, W, or Y.

RECOMMEND!

- ▶ Make meningococcal disease prevention part of your anticipatory guidance for adolescent and young adult patients.

Talking points

- Meningococcal disease is rare but can be deadly for young people your age.
- You are at increased risk from your mid-to-late teens and into your early twenties.
- Disease comes on suddenly, without warning, and can quickly become life-threatening.
- Meningococcal vaccines are safe and effective.
- 2 doses of MenACWY are recommended for adolescents your age.

- ▶ Your strong recommendation for MenACWY **will** make a difference.

VACCINATE!

<p>ACIP Recommendations for MenACWY¹ Give dose #1 at 11 or 12 years of age AND dose #2 at 16 years of age</p>	<p><i>Recommendations if dose #1 is delayed:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If dose #1 is delayed until 13 through 15 years of age, give dose #2 at 16 through 18 years of age.^a • If dose #1 is delayed until 16 years of age or older, dose #2 is not recommended. • Healthy people 19 through 21 years of age who have not received dose #1 can receive a single MenACWY dose as part of catch-up vaccination. • MenACWY vaccination of healthy people who are not at increased risk for exposure to <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> is not routinely recommended after 21 years of age. <p><small>a The minimum interval between doses of MenACWY is 8 weeks. So it is acceptable to give the first dose at 15 years of age and the second dose at 16, as long as the minimum 8-week interval between doses is observed.</small></p>
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REVIEW!

- ▶ Establish office protocols (e.g., screening tools) for identifying adolescents who need to be vaccinated.
- ▶ Make use of helpful management tools (reminder-recall systems, standing orders, immunization registries, electronic health record prompts) to track and improve your vaccination coverage.
- ▶ Don't miss opportunities! Train your staff to help identify teens who need vaccination.

<p>Consider every patient encounter an opportunity to vaccinate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Acute care visits ✓ Well visits ✓ Sports and camp physicals ✓ Routine visits for chronic illness ✓ Visits for influenza or COVID-19 vaccines
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www.give2menacwy.org

REMEMBER: You're not done if you give just one!

References

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Meningococcal Vaccination: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, United States, 2020. *MMWR* 2020;69(No. RR-9); 1–41. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.rr6909a1>.
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National, Regional, State, and Selected Local Area Vaccination Coverage Among Adolescents Aged 13–17 years – United States, 2019. *MMWR* 2020;69(33)1109–1116. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6933a1>.
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the United States; Coadministration with other vaccines. www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html#Coadministration