

Meningococcal meningitis

Information for internally displaced persons

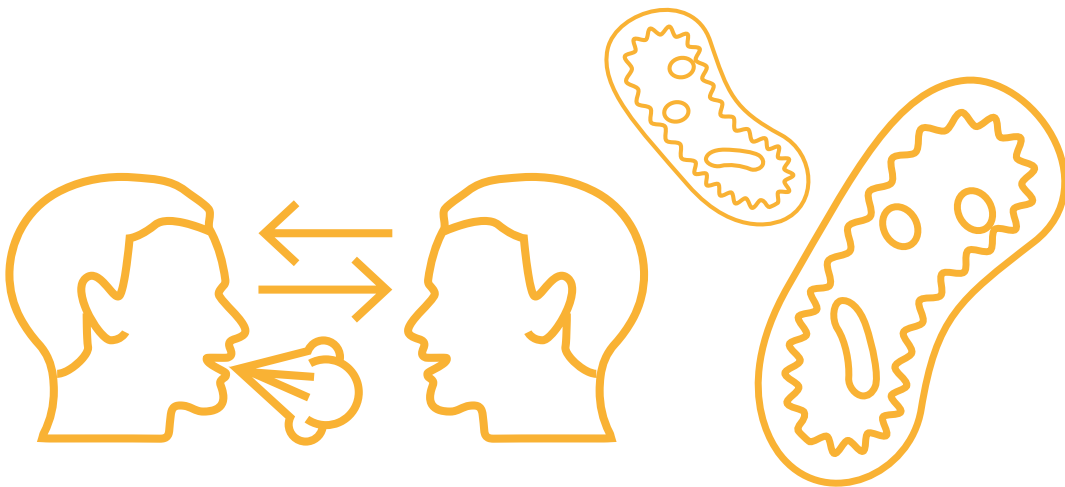
Source of infection

Meningococcal meningitis is a bacterial form of meningitis. It is a serious infection of the thin lining that surrounds the brain and spinal cord. It can cause severe brain damage and is fatal in 50% of cases if untreated. It can also cause wide-scale epidemics.



Types of exposure & prevention

Meningitis spreads from one person to another by droplets from the nose and mouth when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks. In camps and temporary communities for internally displaced persons, meningitis (meningococcal) can spread quickly through respiratory droplets.



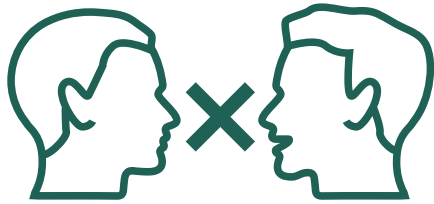
Prevent it by:



Getting vaccinated



Informing a doctor if you suspect an individual is exhibiting symptoms



Avoiding close contact (including kissing, sneezing or coughing) with anyone displaying symptoms



Wearing a mask to avoid respiratory transmission especially if cases have been reported



Avoiding smoking

Symptoms



Stiff neck



High fever



Sensitivity to light



Confusion



Headaches



Vomiting

Actions to take in case of symptoms:



Seek immediate medical advice. In camps, avoid interactions with people displaying symptoms.



World Health Organization

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE Eastern Mediterranean