

# Free meningococcal ACWY vaccine for all young people in Tasmania

2018



## 1. Meningococcal disease is bad

- It makes you very sick, very quickly.
- You can **die** from it.

## 2. Be safe, see your doctor and get vaccinated

- In Tasmania, people born after 1 August 1997 and at least six weeks old can get a free meningococcal ACWY vaccine until the end of 2018.
- Visit your doctor or if you are 10 years old and up to 21 years old, you can get the vaccine from some chemists or some council clinics.

## 3. What happens when you go for the vaccine?

- You need to sign a form to show you agree to have the vaccine.
- You can ask for help with the form.
- If you have questions, ask the nurse or doctor.

### Needle

- The nurse or doctor will give you a needle in your arm. It might sting. Your arm might be sore for a few days.

## 4. Wait 15 minutes afterwards

- You must stay for 15 minutes after having the needle to make sure you are OK.

## 5. Stay well



# Do I or my child have meningococcal disease?

2018



Meningococcal disease can make you very sick, very quickly.

You might have:

- a fever (high temperature)
- a bad headache
- bad pains in the legs and body
- a stiff neck
- drowsiness (hard to wake up)
- confusion
- new red or purple spots on the skin.

It can make babies:

- cry a lot
- be hard to wake up
- go floppy, limp and pale
- refuse to feed.

**If you think you or your child has this disease, don't wait.**

Call your doctor **or** HealthDirect (phone 1800 022 222) **or** go to hospital.

**If the doctor sends you home but you get worse, go back or go to hospital.**

If you want to know more go to [www.health.tas.gov.au](http://www.health.tas.gov.au) or call 1800 671 738.