

Meningococcal C Conjugate (Men C-C) Immunization

Meningococcal C Conjugate (Men C-C) immunization is part of the routine Yukon Immunization Program. This immunization protects you from the meningococcal type C Infection and its complications.

Men C-C is given at 2 months of age and again at one year of age according to the Yukon Children's Immunization schedule.

Meningococcal type C infections WILL cause:

- High fever
- Severe headaches
- Nausea and vomiting
- Decline in general health
- Rashes

Infections can have the following complications:

- Permanent brain damage
- Deafness
- Amputation of the hands or feet (10 to 15%)
- Death (10 to 15%)

Why is Meningococcal C immunization recommended?

Meningococcal C infection is caused by a germ (or bacteria) called meningococcal type C. It can cause serious and life-threatening infections including meningitis (an infection of the lining that covers the brain), and septicemia (an infection of the blood).

Meningococcal infection spreads easily from one person to another by coughing, sneezing, or close face-to-face contact. Meningococcal bacteria can be found in the nose or throat of healthy children, teenagers and adults.

Immunization is the best prevention against meningococcal C infections. The Men C-C immunization is very effective, very safe and, in most cases, causes no side effects. The potential complications of the diseases outweigh any possible side effects of the immunization.

Possible side effects of the immunization:

- Redness or increased sensitivity at injection site (within 72 hours of immunization).
- Rarely, you may display a fever, irritability and discomfort.

Allergic reactions are very rare and can be treated by the person who gave the immunization. You will be asked to wait for 15 minutes after the immunization to watch for an allergic reaction and to treat one should it happen.

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What to do:

- Comfort measures may be all that is needed.
- Apply a cold, damp compress to the immunization site.
- Administer acetaminophen-type medication if oral temperature is 38.5°C or higher.

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