

# Meningitis

(Meningococcal Disease) **is serious**

Tell your doctor about any of the following signs and symptoms:

Your baby or child may:

Adults may:



▶ have a fever



▶ be crying or unsettled



▶ refuse drinks or feeds



▶ vomit



▶ be sleepy or floppy or harder to wake



▶ have a stiff neck  
▶ dislike bright lights



▶ have a rash or spots



The rash can occur anywhere on the body. Even one spot on a sick child or adult is important, so show it to your doctor.



▶ have a fever and headache



▶ vomit



▶ be sleepy, confused, delirious or unconscious



▶ have a stiff neck  
▶ dislike bright lights



▶ have joint pain and aching muscles



▶ have a rash or spots

## Don't wait – take action!

If you or someone in your household is sick with one or more of the symptoms from this chart:

- Ring a doctor or medical centre right away – whether it is day or night.
- Say what the symptoms are.
- Insist on immediate action – don't be put off – a life may be at risk.
- If a person has been cleared by a doctor, they should still be watched.
- If they get worse go straight back to a doctor.
- Do not leave them alone.
- Early treatment of meningococcal disease with antibiotics can save lives.
- Even if your child has been immunised with the MeNZB vaccine, they can get meningococcal disease from other strains of the bacteria.