

Meningococcal Disease

Two Most Common Manifestations & Their Symptoms*

Meningococemia (Blood infection)

Bacteria enters through the nose & throat

Bacteria in bloodstream

Purplish rash is a telltale symptom†

Meningitis (Spinal cord/brain infection)

Severe headache & stiff neck signal infection**

Bacteria in spinal cord & brain membranes

Spinal cord

†Symptoms of Meningococemia	Symptoms of Both	**Symptoms of Meningitis
Pale or mottled skin, purplish rash	Very sleepy & vacant	Sensitivity to bright light
Unusually cold hands & feet	High fever	Seizures
Breathing fast & breathless	Confused & delirious	Severe headaches
Limb, joint & muscle pain	Vomiting	Stiff neck

Courtesy of the National Meningitis Association
nmaus.org

*Symptoms can vary and may come on suddenly and/or severely. Please contact your health care provider with questions.