## What is invasive meningococcal disease?

It is a serious bacterial infection caused by Neisseria meningitidis bacteria, which can lead to serious and sometimes fatal diseases including:

**SEPTICEMIA** 

• Multi-organ failure

**INCLUDE:** 

Bleeding

- meningitis (infection of the brain lining), and
- septicemia (blood infection)

# SYMPTOMS OF MENINGITIS INCLUDE:

#### • Intense headache

- Fever
- Nausea and vomiting
- Light sensitivity
- Stiff neck

#### CONSEQUENCES

#### INCLUDE:

- Delirium
- Coma
- Death (in about 5-10% of cases)
- Long-term health problems (in up to 1 in 3 survivors)
- Hearing loss
- Neurologic disabilities
- Digit or limb amputations

Even when the disease is diagnosed and treated early, 5 to 10% of patients die, typically within 24-48 hours after the onset of symptoms.

There are several serogroups of the bacteria. A quadrivalent meningococcal vaccine such as Nimenrix can help protect against 4 of 5 serogroups that commonly cause invasive meningococcal disease: A, C, W<sub>135</sub> and Y.

# Don't let your pilgrimage be stopped before it starts!

Your Hajj or Umrah visas will not be issued without proof of vaccination against meningococcal meningitis.

### Ask your healthcare professional about Nimenrix before your trip

A vaccine, like any medicine, may cause serious problems, such as severe allergic reactions. The risk of Nimenrix causing serious harm is extremely small. The small risks associated with Nimenrix are much less than the risk associated with getting the disease. In infants, adolescents and adults, the most common side effects (reported in more than 1 in 10 doses of the vaccine) after having Nimenrix include loss of appetite, irritability, drowsiness, headache, fever, swelling, pain and redness at the injection site and fatigue. Other common side effects (in more than 1 in 100 doses of the vaccine) after having Nimenrix are gastrointestinal symptoms including diarrhea, vomiting and nausea, and injection site hematoma. Tell your healthcare professional as soon as possible if you or your child does not feel well after receiving Nimenrix. This is not a complete list of side effects. For any unexpected effects while taking Nimenrix, contact your healthcare professional.

Please consult the Product Monograph at <a href="www.pfizer.ca/pm/en/Nimenrix.pdf">www.pfizer.ca/pm/en/Nimenrix.pdf</a> for important information relating to adverse reactions, drug interactions, and dosing information, which have not been discussed in this piece. The Product Monograph is also available by calling 1-800-463-6001.

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# Participating in THE HAJJ OR UMRAH PILGRIMAGES?

Don't forget your mandatory certificate of vaccination against meningococcal meningitis – your Hajj or Umrah visas will not be issued without it.



#### Help protect yourself

against four common serogroups (A, C, W<sub>135</sub> and Y) responsible for invasive meningococcal disease with Nimenrix<sup>®</sup>.

As with all vaccines, Nimenrix may not fully protect all people who are vaccinated. Nimenrix will only protect against infections caused by serogroups of *Neisseria meningitidis* for which the vaccine was developed.





# Why the mandatory vaccination against meningococcal meningitis?

Certain travel situations can put you at risk, including:

- Going to areas where the disease is more common, such as the sub-Saharan African meningitis belt
- Travelling to crowded areas or taking part in large gatherings, such as the Hajj

In 2000, a regional outbreak of meningococcal disease in Saudi Arabia associated with Hajj involved:

- 264 suspected cases
- 70 deaths
- An overall attack rate of 15 cases/100,000 Hajj pilgrims

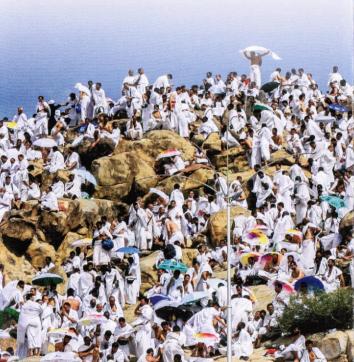
If you're participating in the Hajj or Umrah pilgrimage, your vaccination against meningococcal meningitis must have been received within the last 3 years and at least 10 days before arrival.



# How is it transmitted?

Like the flu, meningococcal meningitis is passed from person to person through close, direct contact such as:

This mandatory vaccination against meningococcal meningitis is important to help protect you and your family during your pilgrimage.





#### Why Nimenrix?

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Ministry of He learning or older be vaccinated with a quadrivalent meningo cal vaccine (A, C, W<sub>135</sub> and Y) like Nimenrix.

Nimenrix can help protect against 4 of 5 serogroups that commonly cause invasive meningococcal disease: A, C, W<sub>135</sub> and Y.

Serogroup coverage	Nimenrix	Meningococcal Conjugate C vaccine	Me	ningococcal B vaccine
A	<b>√</b>			
C	<b>✓</b>	•		
<b>W</b> <sub>135</sub>	<b>√</b>			
Y	<b>/</b>			
В				•

Receiving the Nimenrix vaccine efore your pilgrimage can help offer perotection against all recommended seroge oups.