



July 2011

Community and Health Services Department



Menjugate[®] and NeisVac-C[®] Vaccine

(Meningococcal type C Vaccine)

Menjugate[®] and NeisVac-C[®] are vaccines that protect against type C meningococcal disease

- Both vaccines are intended for infants and children
- Only one dose is needed for people one year of age and older
- Either vaccine can be given as an injection in the upper arm
- Both vaccines work equally well

Note: Infants under one year of age can receive these vaccines, but they require more than one dose. Only one dose is funded under the Publicly Funded Immunization Schedule for Ontario.

Mild side effects may occur, such as:

- Redness, swelling or discomfort at the injection site
 - Irritability, high-pitched, persistent crying, fever, change in appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, drowsiness, rash
- Severe side effects are rare.

People should delay or avoid this immunization if they:

- Have a fever or are fighting a recent infection
- Have an allergy to aluminum

Meningococcal type C disease

- Is a serious infection that causes swelling of the tissues that cover the brain and spinal cord
- Produces flu-like symptoms, high fever, drowsiness, headache, stiff neck, irritability, vomiting
- Can also invade the bloodstream causing rash, cold hands and feet, rapid breathing, painful muscles, and joint or abdominal pain
- Can lead to amputations, deafness, scarring, brain or kidney damage and death
- Is caused by bacteria that are quite common. These bacteria can be found in the back of the throat and nose of 10 to 30 per cent of people without making them ill. Only very rarely do these bacteria invade the body to cause illness
- Spreads from person to person through droplets expelled from the mouth, nose and throat of an infected person (e.g., by coughing, sneezing, kissing or sharing food, utensils, cigarettes or drinks)

For further information, please call:

York Region Health Connection 1-800-361-5653

TTY 1-866-252-9933 or visit www.york.ca

Information sheet