

## ABOUT MENINGITIS

Meningococcus (*Neisseria meningitidis*) is a bacterium (a type of germ) that can cause several serious diseases, including meningitis (infection of the membranes covering the brain), infection of the blood, infection of the joints, infection around the heart, and pneumonia.

Meningococcal disease can occur in people of all ages. The symptoms of meningococcal disease are similar to other diseases, with fever, aches, chills, and headache.

The disease progresses rapidly, so even with proper treatment, the death rate is about 7% to 19% in patients with any type of meningococcal disease, and is as high as 53% in patients with septicaemia.

About 20% of patients who survive meningococcal meningitis are left with serious neurological (brain or nerve) damage.

There are at least 13 different types of meningococcus bacteria. The five types that are responsible for causing the most disease are called A, B, C, Y, and W-135.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE VACCINE TRIALS GROUP

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Website - [www.ichr.uwa.edu.au/vtg](http://www.ichr.uwa.edu.au/vtg)



This study has been approved by a Human Research Ethics Committee. In Perth, the study is run by the research staff and doctors at the Vaccine Trials Group, Telethon Institute for Child Health Research in conjunction with Princess Margaret Hospital for Children and the University of Western Australia School of Paediatrics.

# THE TODDLER FOUR IN ONE



HELP US FIND A  
VACCINE TO PROTECT  
AGAINST FOUR TYPES  
(A, C, Y & W-135)  
OF MENINGOCOCCAL  
DISEASE

The Vaccine Trials Group at the Telethon Institute for Child Health Research are conducting a vaccine study that may protect toddlers against four types of meningococcus bacteria that cause meningococcal disease.



When the weather is warm, bubbles are great for outdoor fun.

Babies love bubble play, but be careful around your baby's eyes. Try substituting the soap with a baby shampoo or baby wash for tear-free bubbles.

## BEST BUBBLE SOLUTION

1 cup water

2 tablespoons light karo syrup or 2 tablespoons glycerin

4 tablespoons dishwashing liquid

Mix together and have fun!

## WHO CAN TAKE PART?

If your child is healthy, aged 10 to 12 months and has not had their 12 month vaccines please contact us for more information.

## WHAT DOES THE STUDY INVOLVE:

- 2 visits to the clinic 30 days apart
- 2 blood tests (an anaesthetic cream can be used)
- 1 vaccine (study vaccine or Men C vaccine)
- completion of a diary card
- routine (not part of the study) 12 month vaccines (measles, mumps, rubella and Hib vaccines) at the 2nd visit

All study participants will be notified at the end of the study about their child's response to the vaccine and if required will be offered a booster vaccine if they have low protection against type C meningococcal disease.

Limited free parking is available at the front door. Travel reimbursement will be provided.

All information collected will be kept confidential and in a secure place at the Vaccine Trials Group, Princess Margaret Hospital for Children.

Here are some inexpensive and easy ways to make bubble wands at home.

Bend the end of a pipe cleaner to make a closed loop. Dip the looped end into the bubble soap and blow through the loop to make bubbles.

Use a wire coat hanger to make a larger bubble wand. Since hangers are already shaped like a loop, just re-shape it into a circle. Younger hands will need help bending the stiff wire hanger.

Look around your kitchen for objects you can use to blow bubbles such as cookie cutters, spatulas, and cooling racks.

Check your recycling bin for containers and lids that can be used for bubble blowing. A yogurt tub can be cut into rings that can be dipped into bubble soap or try dipping the end of a toilet paper or paper towel tube.

