

ABOUT MENINGITIS

Bacterial meningitis is a serious infection in young children. The death rate is around 5%. Of those children who contract bacterial meningitis, around one in five will have permanent disabilities such as cerebral palsy and deafness.

The most common types of bacteria that cause meningitis are:

- Haemophilus influenza type B (Hib)
- Meningococcal disease
- Pneumococcal disease.

The most common cause of meningitis in children used to be Hib disease but this is now prevented with routine vaccination in babies.

In Australia, Group B and C strains of meningococcal germs cause the most disease. Group Y is rare in Australia however, it is responsible for about one third of meningococcal cases in North America.

A vaccine is now available for group C disease that is effective in young children and has been approved for the routine schedule at 12 months of age.

There is no vaccine for group B strains.

HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE STUDY?

If you want to know more, or book an appointment, we will be happy to talk to you. Please contact Jennifer Kent on:

telephone - 9340 8542

or

email - vtg@ichr.uwa.edu.au

In Perth, this study is run by the research nurses and doctors at the Vaccine Trials Group at the Telethon Institute for Child Health Research, in conjunction with Princess Margaret Hospital for Children and the University of Western Australia School of Paediatrics and Child Health.

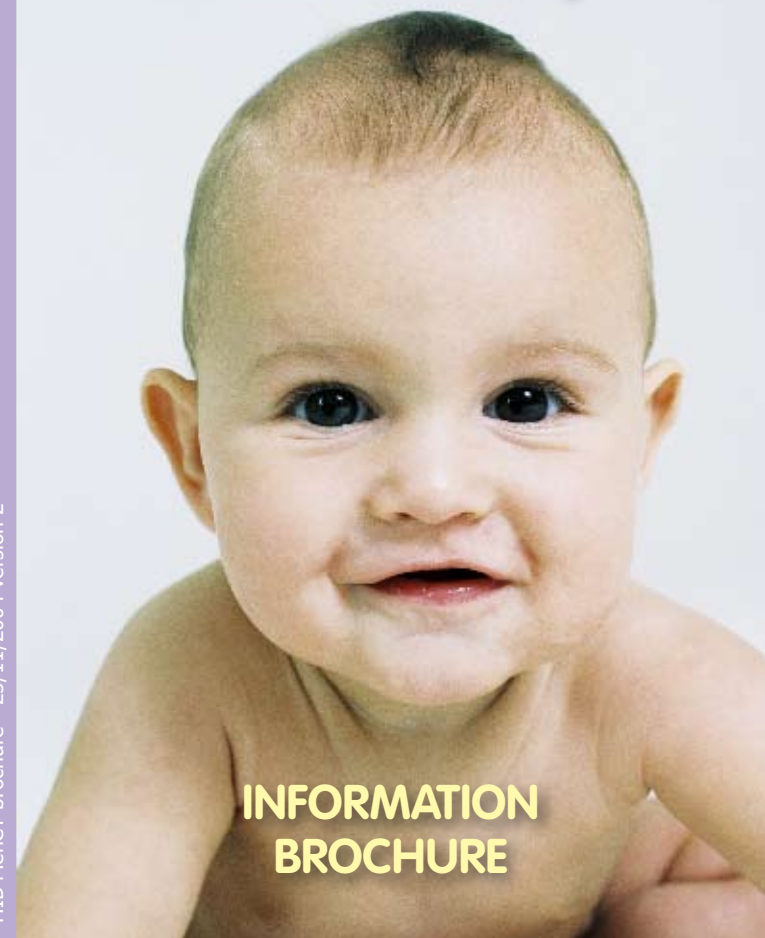


H1B MenCY brochure - 25/11/2004 version 2



KEEPING YOUR BABY HEALTHY

Combined Meningitis Vaccine Study



**INFORMATION
BROCHURE**

WHAT IS THE STUDY ABOUT?

The purpose of this study is to look at how well a new, combined Hib and meningococcal types C and Y vaccine (Hib-MenCY) works when it is given with your baby's routine vaccinations including the chicken pox vaccine.

In order to decrease the number of injections that babies need in the first 6 months of life, combination vaccines are being developed.

WHO CAN TAKE PART?

Healthy babies born between 36 and 42 weeks gestation who are now aged between 6 and 12 weeks.

ARE THERE ANY COSTS INVOLVED?

No, there are no costs involved. We will provide free parking at Princess Margaret Hospital for each examination.

If your child has any health issues during the study and requires treatment, the study doctor will arrange for appropriate follow-up care.

WHAT WILL I HAVE TO DO?

- Allow your child to be randomised into a group to receive either the combined Hib-MenCY vaccine or Hib and meningococcal vaccines separately
- Allow your child to receive all other recommended routine vaccinations including the chicken pox and pneumococcal vaccines
- Come to the Vaccine Trials Group at Princess Margaret Hospital for six visits over an approximate twelve month period. This will include an examination by a doctor at four of the visits
- Take part in a telephone interview at the end of the study
- Allow your child to have three blood tests during the study
- Keep a record of any symptoms that may occur following each immunisation

All the information we collect will be kept confidential and in a secure place at the Vaccine Trials Group at Princess Margaret Hospital.

