

Meningococcal vaccines

Newborn use only

2020

Alert	If possible, complete the primary course of MenACWY vaccination with the same vaccine brand. For people aged <10 years, Bexsero is the only registered Meningococcal B vaccine in Australia.																												
Indication	Primary immunisation against meningococcal disease.																												
Action	Induces antibodies against meningococcal ACWY and B serogroups.																												
Drug type	Vaccine.																												
Trade name	<p>Meningococcal B vaccines: Bexsero - Recombinant meningococcal serogroup B vaccine (4CMenB).</p> <p>Meningococcal ACWY vaccines: Menveo (MenACWY-CRM) - Quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine. Nimenrix (MenACWY-TT) - Quadrivalent meningococcal–tetanus toxoid conjugate vaccine. Menactra - (MenACWY-D) - quadrivalent meningococcal–diphtheria toxoid conjugate vaccine.</p>																												
Presentation	<p>Bexsero: 0.5 mL monodose pre-filled syringe</p> <p>Menveo: 0.5 mL monodose pre-filled syringe or vial.</p> <p>Nimenrix: 0.5 mL monodose vial with separate pre-filled syringe or ampoule of diluent.</p> <p>Menactra: 0.5 mL monodose vial.</p>																												
Dose	<p>0.5 mL Intramuscular as follows: (Refer to practice points)</p> <p>Can be co-administered with other routine immunisations. Bexsero can also be administered separately to other vaccines, with a minimum 3 day interval to reduce the risk of fever.</p> <p><u>Meningococcal ACWY vaccine:</u></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">Age at commencement</th> <th style="width: 35%;">Vaccine brand</th> <th style="width: 40%;">Doses</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>6 weeks – 5 months</td> <td>Menveo, Nimenrix</td> <td>3 doses (8 weeks between 1st and 2nd dose; 3rd dose at 12 months of age)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6-8 months</td> <td>Menveo, Nimenrix</td> <td>2 doses (2nd dose at 12 months of age or 8 weeks after 1st dose, whichever is later)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9-11 months</td> <td>Menveo, Nimenrix, Menactra</td> <td>2 doses (2nd dose at 12 months of age or 8 weeks after 1st dose, whichever is later)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12-23 months</td> <td>Menveo, Nimenrix, Menactra</td> <td>Menveo: 2 doses (8 weeks apart) Nimenrix: 1 dose Menactra: 2 doses (8 weeks apart)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>Meningococcal B vaccine (Bexsero):*</u></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">Age at commencement</th> <th style="width: 35%;">Vaccine brand</th> <th style="width: 40%;">Doses</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>6 weeks – 5 months</td> <td>Bexsero</td> <td>3 doses (8 weeks between 1st and 2nd dose; 3rd dose at 12 months of age or 8 weeks after 2nd dose, whichever is later)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6-11 months</td> <td>Bexsero</td> <td>3 doses (8 weeks between 1st and 2nd dose; 3rd dose at 12 months of age or 8 weeks after 2nd dose, whichever is later)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12-23 months</td> <td>Bexsero</td> <td>2 doses (8 weeks apart)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>*3 doses of paracetamol, starting within 30 minutes prior to vaccine administration and subsequently 4-6 hours apart are recommended.</u></p> <p>Infants with specified medical conditions with increased risk of Invasive meningococcal disease (IMD) Refer to Australian Immunisation schedule (1)</p>		Age at commencement	Vaccine brand	Doses	6 weeks – 5 months	Menveo, Nimenrix	3 doses (8 weeks between 1 st and 2 nd dose; 3 rd dose at 12 months of age)	6-8 months	Menveo, Nimenrix	2 doses (2 nd dose at 12 months of age or 8 weeks after 1 st dose, whichever is later)	9-11 months	Menveo, Nimenrix, Menactra	2 doses (2 nd dose at 12 months of age or 8 weeks after 1 st dose, whichever is later)	12-23 months	Menveo, Nimenrix, Menactra	Menveo: 2 doses (8 weeks apart) Nimenrix: 1 dose Menactra: 2 doses (8 weeks apart)	Age at commencement	Vaccine brand	Doses	6 weeks – 5 months	Bexsero	3 doses (8 weeks between 1 st and 2 nd dose; 3 rd dose at 12 months of age or 8 weeks after 2 nd dose, whichever is later)	6-11 months	Bexsero	3 doses (8 weeks between 1 st and 2 nd dose; 3 rd dose at 12 months of age or 8 weeks after 2 nd dose, whichever is later)	12-23 months	Bexsero	2 doses (8 weeks apart)
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Dose adjustment	<p>Therapeutic hypothermia: Not applicable</p> <p>ECMO: Not applicable.</p> <p>Renal impairment: No information.</p> <p>Hepatic information: No information.</p>																												
Maximum dose	Not applicable.																												
Total cumulative dose	Not applicable.																												

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Route	Intramuscular.
Preparation	None required.
Administration	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. May administer oral sucrose 2 minutes prior to injection (observe local pain policy). 2. Administer oral paracetamol within 30 minutes before Bexsero vaccine and repeat 2nd and 3rd dose 4-6 hours apart.(2, 3) 3. Follow product specific directions, as some products require reconstitution. 4. Shake syringe vigorously immediately prior to use to obtain a homogenous, white suspension. 5. Administer by intramuscular injection to the anterolateral aspect of the thigh (slowly to reduce pain). 6. Administer on the opposite limb from other concurrently administered vaccines. 7. Register the vaccines with the Australian Immunisation Register as per the local hospital policy.
Monitoring	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Observe for 15 minutes after vaccination for any adverse events. 2. Pain: Refer to local pain relief policy. 3. Body temperature. 4. History of febrile convulsions: Infants should be closely followed up for 2-3 days for any convulsions.
Contraindications	<p>Anaphylaxis after a previous dose of any meningococcal vaccine.</p> <p>Anaphylaxis after any component of a meningococcal vaccine.</p> <p>Previous meningococcal disease is not a contraindication.</p> <p>Previous vaccination with the strain-specific MenB vaccine used in New Zealand (MeNZB) is not a contraindication to Bexsero or Trumenba.</p> <p>Previous vaccination with a quadrivalent polysaccharide meningococcal vaccine (<i>4vMenPV</i>; used previously in Australia) is not a contraindication to receiving any MenACWY vaccine.</p>
Precautions	<p>Acute illness or temperature greater than 38.5°C – postpone vaccine until neonatologist approves.</p> <p>Bexsero can be given separate to other routine vaccines, with a minimum interval of 3 days, to minimise the risk of fever.</p>
Drug interactions	MenACWY vaccines can be co-administered with most other vaccines.
Adverse reactions	<p>Bexsero: 26–41% developed fever $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$, and 4–8% had fever $\geq 39^{\circ}\text{C}$. Temperatures are generally highest 6 hours after vaccination, decreased on day 2 and subsided by day 3. Other adverse effects: tenderness, swelling, induration and erythema at the injection site, irritability, sleepiness, crying, change in appetite.</p> <p>Menveo: Frequency of adverse events are similar to other childhood vaccines. Fever in about 1%.</p> <p>Nimenrix: Mild injection site reactions in 30–50%. About 20% had a mild systemic reaction.</p> <p>Menactra: Most reactions are local injection site reactions.</p>
Compatibility	Not applicable.
Incompatibility	Not applicable.
Stability	Do not remove from refrigerator until time of administration. Expiry is found on packaging.
Storage	Store at 2°C to 8°C. Do not freeze. Protect from light. Storage should in line with national vaccine storage guidelines “Strive for 5”.
Excipients	<p><u>Bexsero:</u> sodium chloride, histidine, sucrose.</p> <p><u>Nimenrix:</u> Sucrose, trometamol, 0.9% Sodium chloride.</p> <p><u>Menactra:</u> Sodium chloride, dibasic and monobasic sodium phosphate.</p> <p><u>Menveo:</u> Sucrose, natural rubber, potassium dihydrogen phosphate, dibasic and monobasic sodium phosphate, sodium chloride.</p>
Special comments	For Australian infants- Bexsero® is now funded under the National Immunisation Program (NIP) for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander infants from 2 months of age , with catch-up available until June 2023 for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children < 2 years (i.e. up to 23 months) of age.(1)
Evidence	Refer to full version.
Practice points	Refer to full version.
References	Refer to full version.

VERSION/NUMBER	DATE
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REVIEW (5 years)	15/10/2025
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