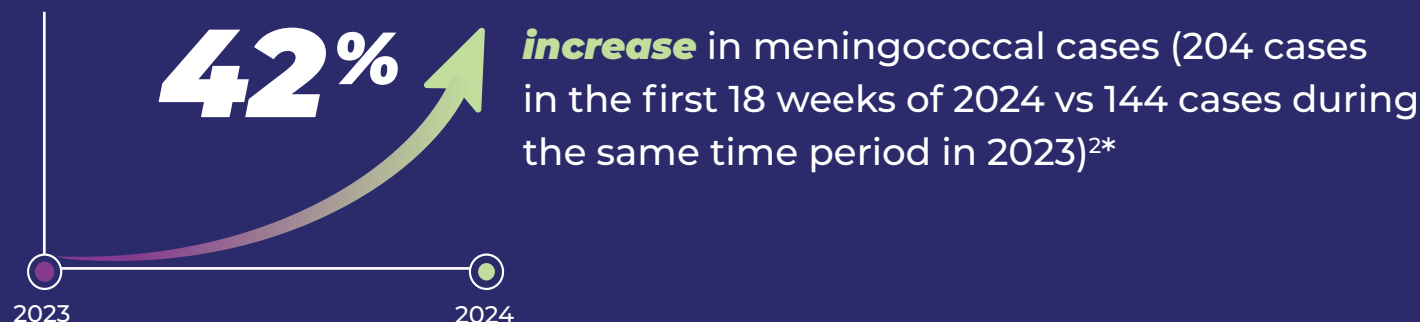


Meningococcal disease is on the rise

422 cases reported in the United States in 2023—the highest annual number since 2014¹

Cases are still rising in 2024



The CDC has issued a health advisory

regarding the current increase in meningococcal disease cases, driven by a specific meningococcal strain, sequence type (ST) 1466,[†] alerting healthcare providers to¹:



Maintain a heightened suspicion of uncommon but serious meningococcal disease due to the increased number of cases^{1,3}



Be aware that patients may present without typical symptoms of meningitis¹



Ensure that everyone who is recommended for meningococcal vaccination be up to date with vaccines¹

*CDC surveillance data are observational data only, based on incidence rates from 2019 through 2024 YTD collected through the NNDSS run by the CDC. Case counts for reporting years 2023 and 2024 are provisional and subject to change.² [†]Cases caused by ST-1466 are disproportionately occurring in people ages 30 to 60 years (65%), Black or African American people (63%), and people with HIV (15%).¹

CDC=Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; NNDSS=National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System; YTD=year to date.

The recent rise in meningococcal disease is largely driven by serogroup Y, with **most cases causing bloodstream infection**¹

Meningococcal bloodstream infections (septicemia) can present without symptoms typical of meningitis such as headache and stiff neck¹

Symptoms of meningococcal septicemia can include¹:



Fever and chills



Fatigue



Vomiting



Cold hands and feet



Severe aches and pains



Rapid breathing



Diarrhea



A dark purple rash (presents in later stages)

Typically, only 10% to 20% of meningococcal disease cases present with meningococcal septicemia,⁴ but:

~1 in 2 cases of meningococcal septicemia are fatal⁴

Be on alert that your patients who engage in these common sharing behaviors may be at risk⁵:



Sharing drinks, food, vapes, or cosmetics



Kissing



Prolonged living in close quarters



Meningococcal disease can be unpredictable and affect anyone. While still uncommon, the number of reported cases are rising. Yet nearly **90% of older teens are not fully vaccinated** against it.* Make sure your eligible patients are vaccinated against all 5 leading meningococcal serogroups to help protect them against the rise in cases.^{1,3,5-12†}

Visit [HelpPreventMening5.com](https://www.hhs.gov/help-prevent-mening5) to learn more

*Based on the 2022 National Immunization Survey of 13- to 17-year-olds in the United States, coverage rates among 17-year-olds for MenACWY was 90.7% for Dose 1 and 60.8% for Dose 2 (n=3019). For MenB coverage, 29.4% received Dose 1 and 11.9% received Dose 2 (n=3019). MenACWY >2 doses calculated only among adolescents aged 17 years at time of interview; does not include adolescents who received 1 MenACWY dose at age >16 years.⁶ †Based on data in the CDC enhanced meningococcal surveillance reports from 2017 to 2022 for 16- to 23-year-olds. The number of cases for each serogroup were as follows: MenA=0; MenB=120; MenC=20; MenW=5; MenY=9; other/unknown=31; and non-groupable=49.⁷⁻¹²

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