

MENINGOCOCCAL GROUP C CONJUGATE VACCINE

NEISSERIA MENINGITIDIS Serogroups A,B,C,Y and W-135 cause invasive meningococcal disease to occur in irregular, inconsistent localized outbreaks every 10-15 years. Adult (> 20 years in Ontario) disease incidence is about 0.5 cases per 100,000 per year. Invasive disease is characterized by sudden onset of fever, headache, nausea and vomiting, stiff neck, petechial rash, delerium, coma and shock with case fatality rates of about 10%.

SEROGROUP C infection was shown in a 1990-94 Quebec study to cause 15% of survivors the following sequellae (skin scars 12%, amputations 5%, hearing loss 2%, renal problems 1% and other sequellae 4%) The 20-59 year age group suffered most subsequent illness and death.

IMMUNIZATION RESONSE in adults two months post Menjugate vaccination is protective serogroup C antibody levels in about 85-90% of cases. Menjugate vaccine probably induces immunologic memory for at last 5 years after primary immunization. The need for a booster dose has not been established at the present time.

IMMUNIZATION IS RECOMMENDED for laboratory personnel who are routinely exposed to preparations or cultures of Neisseria meningitides, but it does not guarantee complete protection against meningococcal serogroup C infections.

CONTRAINDICATIONS include any febrile illness with a temperature >38.5 degrees, an allergy to aluminium hydroxide or any other vaccine component, a prior anaphylactic reaction to Menjugate vaccination and pregnancy.

ADVERSE REACTIONS include local symptoms of injection-site pain (81%), fever (47%), induration (24%) and erythema (redness) (19%) that are normally resolved in 24-72 hours following vaccination. The general symptoms are predominantly mild and may include headache (34%), myalgia (29%) and malaise (25%).

CONSENT

I have read this information and understand the benefits and the risks involved. I have been given the opportunity to ask questions to clarify any misunderstandings that I might have had about this vaccine. I agree to the administration of Meningococcal Group C Conjugate vaccine.

Name _____ Signature _____
Date _____ Witness _____