



# Whitehorse Immunisation

## **MENINGOCOCCAL B (BEXSERO)**

### **Information for parents/guardians**

#### **What is Meningococcal disease?**

Meningococcal disease is an uncommon but serious disease which can escalate quickly and cause complications such as meningitis, septicaemia and loss of limbs and death.

Young children and teenagers are most at risk.

#### **Vaccine recommendations**

Your baby can receive meningococcal vaccine from 6 weeks of age. There are 13 strains of meningococcal bacteria. There are currently vaccines to prevent A, C, W, Y and B strains.

One dose of A, C, W, Y vaccine is given for free at one year old. Meningococcal B vaccine is a fee pay vaccine.

#### **Vaccine doses**

Children under 1 year old require 2 doses 2 months apart plus 1 booster after 1 year old.

Children over 1 year old require 2 doses 2 months apart. This vaccine is safe to give with other vaccines on the same day.

#### **Fever management**

Bexsero has an increased risk of fever, therefore paracetamol needs to be given 20 minutes before the vaccine and two doses 4-6 hours apart, post vaccine. Give paracetamol whether or not a fever is present.

#### **Further information**

For further information about Meningococcal B vaccine refer to the Better Health Channel website: <https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyliving/meningococcal-disease-immunisation/#meningococcal-b-vaccination>

#### **Bookings and Payment**

Book and pay online by scanning the QR code or via the Whitehorse City Council website at: <https://www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/living-working/people-and-families/immunisation>.

