Vaccine in short for the **Meningococcal vaccine (MenQuadfi)**

What is this vaccine for?

This vaccine protects your child against **4 different types of meningococcal bacteria**: types A, C, W and Y.

Meningococci are bacteria that can cause inflammation, such as inflammation of the membrane around the brain (meningitis) or blood poisoning. The inflammation can also cause lasting complications, such as epileptic seizures, deafness, reduced ability to concentrate and eye problems.

An infection with meningococci is serious and can be fatal.

How does this vaccine work?



After vaccination, your child's body recognises the 4 types of meningococcal bacteria. If your child comes into contact with these bacteria after vaccination, their body can quickly produce antibodies that destroy these bacteria. **As a result, your child will either not become ill or will become much less ill.**

When will my child receive this vaccine?



Your child receives the meningococcal vaccine **twice**. In the National Immunisation Programme, this is at 14 months of age and in the year your child turns 14.

Your child may receive an adjusted schedule. Always follow your child's schedule.



The injection is given in the upper leg or upper arm.

This vaccination is part of the **National Immunisation Programme**. This is a government programme designed to protect people against infectious diseases. Vaccinations that are part of the National Immunisation Programme are free of charge.

What should I do if my child has not received the vaccination?



If your child has **missed** the appointment for the vaccination, make a new appointment as soon as possible.

Most important side effects

As with other vaccines, your child may experience side effects. This is because the vaccine activates your child's immune system. The immune system provides protection against meningococcal disease.

Approximately 1 in 10 children aged 6 weeks to 23 months may experience:

- Redness, swelling or tenderness at the injection site.
- Irritability.
- Crying.
- Reduced appetite.
- Drowsiness.
- Fever.
- Vomiting (occurs less frequently in children aged 12 to 23 months).

Approximately 1 in 10 children aged 2 years or older may experience:

- Headache.
- Muscle pain.
- A feeling of being ill.
- Pain at the injection site.

All listed side effects usually last 1 or 2 days.

Most important warnings



If your child has a **fever** before receiving the vaccination, your child may become even more unwell. The RIVM advises you to make a new appointment for the vaccination if your child has a fever above 38.5°C.



If your child has a **mild infection**, such as a cold, discuss with your doctor whether you should make a new appointment for the vaccination.

It is important that your child receives the vaccinations against meningococcal disease. This is especially important for children between 1 and 4 years of age and young people from the age of 14, as they are at higher risk of meningococcal infection.

More information

If you have any further questions or concerns about vaccinating your child, discuss them with the child health doctor, your doctor or a pharmacist.

For the official package leaflet, see ema.europa.eu. For more information, you can also visit apotheek.nl, thuisarts.nl or rijksvaccinatieprogramma.nl/en.
If you would like to report a side effect, or learn more about side effects, you can do so via lareb.nl/en.

Colophon This information comes from the Dutch Medicines Evaluation Board **MEB** and the pharmacists' association **KNMP** in collaboration with the **RIVM**. No rights can be derived from this information. You can find all the available information about this injection in the official product leaflet and you should follow the advice of your doctor. Last modified: 18 November 2026.