



Kelvale Medical Group
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A reminder about Meningococcal vaccinations

Following the Health Department establishing the Statewide Meningococcal ACWY Vaccination Program, Kelvale Medical Group is working to support this program and assist in achieving its aims. Therefore, we are currently performing vaccinations offered under this scheme and associated consultations free of charge to those aged between 15 and 19 years of age. Also, we wanted to share some information regarding the disease below and if you have any questions regarding this then please do book an appointment with us.



The nature of the disease

Meningococcal disease is caused by bacteria that are spread in much the same way as the common cold. It can seem like a cold or flu but can quickly become worse, with symptoms including confusion, fits, rash and infection of the brain. If severe it can cause death or permanent disability and the disease is known to progress rapidly.

Fortunately, the disease is uncommon in Australia with around 1 in 100,000 Australians currently contracting Meningococcal disease every year. Most of these cases are in children below one year of age and there is a dedicated vaccination program in place for that age group already.

Most sufferers will recover fully from the disease, however, 10% of those infected will die and around 20% will have permanent disabilities ranging in severity.

The impact for 15 to 19 year olds

As a result of the socially interactive lifestyle of this age group and their possessing some of the highest rates of meningococcal carriage and illness, this vaccination program has been funded by the Health Department.

Most of this age group will be vaccinated at school but for those who missed out there is still the possibility of obtaining the same vaccination through their GP practice and at no cost.

The vaccination options

There are different types of vaccines that prevent infection from the 5 different types of the Meningococcus bacteria that are found in Australia. These options have been summarised in the table below.

AGE	VACCINE AGAINST TYPE	FEE
1 year	C	Free
15-19 years	A, C, W, Y	Free
Over 8 weeks	B	Payment required, and a doctor's prescription

All other age groups can be vaccinated, however, you will need to pay for them and obtain a prescription from a doctor.

About us

Kelvale Medical Group in Kelmscott has appointments available every day so getting to see a Doctor to have your Meningococcal vaccine is easy via phone 9495 1230 or visit us at www.kelvale.com.au to book online.

Kelvale Medical Group specialises in vaccinations including Yellow Fever and other travel vaccinations and would welcome the opportunity to discuss your own vaccination needs with you via an appointment.

