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Meningococcal meningitis LECTURE 2

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Mode of transmission

•The disease spreads mainly by droplet infection.

•The portal of entry is the nasopharynx.

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Incubation period

Usually 3 to 4 days, but may vary from 2 to 10 days.

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Clinical Features

Meningococcal Meningitis without Meningococcemia

Meningococcal Meningitis with Meningococcemia

Meningococcemia is a rare infectious disease characterized by upper respiratory tract infection, fever, skin rash and lesions, eye and ear problems, and possibly a sudden state of extreme physical depression (shock) which may be life-threatening without appropriate medical care.

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Clinical Features – Meningitis without *meningococcemia*

1. Patients with meningococcal meningitis have usually been sick for >24 h before they seek medical attention.



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Clinical Features – Meningitis without *meningococcemia*

Common presenting symptoms:

Fever, Nausea and Vomiting.

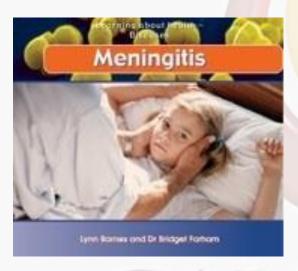
Headache.

Convulsions.

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Clinical Features – Meningitis without meningococcemia





- 2. Common presenting symptoms:
 - 4. Neck Stiffness.
 - 5. Lethargy and Confusion, maybe Coma.

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Clinical Features – Meningitis without *meningococcemia*



3. Petechial hemorrhages on skin and/or mucosa may be seen.

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Clinical Features – Meningitis without *meningococcemia*

4. The signs and symptoms of Meningococcal Meningitis cannot be distinguished from those elicited by other meningeal pathogens.



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Clinical Features – Meningitis with *meningococcemia*

1. Pharyngitis.



2. Fever.

Weakness and Myalgia.



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Clinical Features – Meningitis with *meningococcemia*

4. Vomiting and Diarrhoea.



5. Headache.

May develop maculopapular rash before other serious signs develop.



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Clinical Features – Meningitis with *meningococcemia*

- 7. Fulminate cases –
 Rapid progression
 to shock
 characterised by:
 - 1. Hypotension.
 - 2. DIC.
 - 3. Acidosis.





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Clinical Features – Meningitis with *meningococcemia*

- 4. Adrenal hemorrhage.
- Renal failure.

- 6. Myocardial failure.
- 7. Coma.





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