

# BEXSERO VACCINE

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The meningitis type B vaccine BEXSERO is now available by prescription & may be covered under your private health insurance. Please speak to me about this important vaccine to learn more & see the recommended schedule below.

- Many different bacterial subtypes may cause meningitis.
- The current provincial immunization program provides vaccines that protect against meningitis types C, A, C, Y & W135. (Menjuate, Menactra)
- Type B is now the most prevalent type of meningitis
  - 80% in <1yr age
  - 67% in 1-4 yr olds
  - 62% in 15-19 yr olds
- Type B has always had a higher incidence than other types even prior to immunization programs for type C.
  - 2011: 62% of meningitis due to type B; 2% due to type C
  - 2007-2011: 111 of 192 meningitis cases due to type B
  - 2000-2010: type B most common cause & highest in infants <6 mos
- Case fatality in some studies was 10.7%
- 1 in 5 (20%) patients will suffer significant long term sequelae of Type B Meningitis infection (hearing loss, limb loss, cognitive deficits)

Schedule of shots	Age	Dosing	Interval between doses	Booster
Infants	2-5 mos	3 doses	$\geq 1$ mos	12-23 mos
Infants	6-11 mos	2 doses	$\geq 2$ mos	2 <sup>nd</sup> year of life
Children	12 mos – 10 yrs	2 doses	$\geq 2$ mos	Unknown
Adolescents	11-55 yrs	2 doses	$\geq 1$ mos	Unknown