

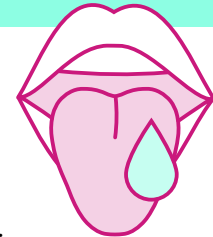
# Meningococcal disease

## What is it?

Invasive meningococcal disease (IMD) is a serious bacterial infection. It is often severe, and can cause meningitis (an infection in the lining of the brain and spinal cord) and septicemia (an infection of the bloodstream).

Symptoms may initially resemble the flu, then rapidly worsen. All meningococcal infections are medical emergencies.

## How does it spread?



Meningococcal bacteria is spread from person to person through close and direct physical contact:

- Sharing anything that comes in contact with saliva
- Open-mouth kissing

## Tell your child or teen not to share:



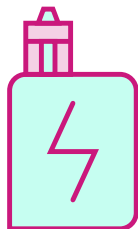
Utensils



Lip balm



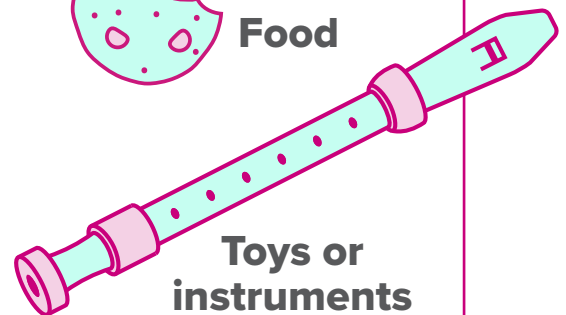
Food



Vapes



Drinks



Toys or instruments that contact the mouth

**Get vaccinated**

Learn more at [kflaph.ca/IMD](https://kflaph.ca/IMD)



**KFL&A**  
Public Health