



EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

EMADOC-1829012207-57647
EMA/H/C/005084

MenQuadfi (*meningococcal group A, C, W135 and Y conjugate vaccine*)

A plain language overview of MenQuadfi and why it is authorised in the EU

What is MenQuadfi and what is it used for?

MenQuadfi is a vaccine used to protect adults and children from the age of 6 weeks against invasive meningococcal disease caused by four groups of the *Neisseria meningitidis* bacteria (group A, C, W, and Y). Invasive disease occurs when the bacteria spread through the body, causing serious infections such as meningitis (infection of the membranes that surround the brain and spine) and septicaemia (blood poisoning).

The vaccine contains substances from the outer coat of *N. meningitidis* bacteria.

How is MenQuadfi used?

MenQuadfi can only be obtained with a prescription and should be used according to available official recommendations.

The vaccine is given as an injection into a muscle, usually in the upper arm or the thigh.

In infants from 6 weeks to less than 12 months of age who have not been previously vaccinated with MenQuadfi, the vaccine is given as two doses at least 2 months apart (primary vaccination). Infants at increased risk of invasive meningococcal disease caused by group A meningococcal bacteria may need a third dose, given 2 months after the second dose. A booster dose is then given during the second year of life (from 12 months of age), at least 2 months after completing the primary vaccination.

In adults and children from 12 months of age who have not been previously vaccinated with MenQuadfi, the vaccine is given as a single injection. Those who have previously received a meningococcal vaccine containing the same groups of meningococcal bacteria can receive a single injection of MenQuadfi as a booster dose.

For more information about using MenQuadfi, see the package leaflet or contact your doctor or pharmacist.

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How does MenQuadfi work?

MenQuadfi is a vaccine. Vaccines work by preparing the immune system (the body's natural defences) to defend the body against a specific disease.

MenQuadfi contains small amounts of sugars from the outer coat of four groups of the *N. meningitidis* bacteria: A, C, W and Y. When a person is given the vaccine, the immune system recognises the sugars as foreign and makes antibodies against them. If the person later comes into contact with the bacteria, these antibodies, together with other components of the immune system, will be able to fight off the bacteria more effectively and so help protect the person against the disease.

What benefits of MenQuadfi have been shown in studies?

The ability of MenQuadfi to trigger the production of antibodies (immunogenicity) was assessed in several main studies involving over 10,000 participants aged 6 weeks and older. MenQuadfi was compared with other vaccines against *N. meningitidis*. Results showed that MenQuadfi was as effective as the other vaccines at stimulating the body to produce antibodies expected to protect against invasive meningococcal disease caused by the four types of *N. meningitidis*.

Studies carried out with MenQuadfi are described in more detail in the medicine's assessment reports.

What are the side effects and restrictions with MenQuadfi?

For the full list of side effects and restrictions with MenQuadfi, see the package leaflet.

In infants and young children aged 6 weeks to less than 24 months, the most common side effects with MenQuadfi (which may affect more than 1 in 10 people) include irritability, drowsiness, loss of appetite, vomiting, fever, abnormal crying, and swelling, pain, tenderness and erythema (reddening of the skin) at the injection site.

The most common side effects with MenQuadfi in people 2 years and older (which may affect more than 1 in 10 people) include headache, muscle pain, malaise (feeling unwell) and pain at the site of injection.

Why is MenQuadfi authorised in the EU?

MenQuadfi has been shown to be at least as effective as similar vaccines at stimulating an immune response against the four groups of *N. meningitidis* bacteria in people of different age groups.

Regarding safety, MenQuadfi is generally well tolerated.

The European Medicines Agency therefore decided that MenQuadfi's benefits are greater than its risks and it can be authorised for use in the EU.

What measures are being taken to ensure the safe and effective use of MenQuadfi?

Recommendations and precautions to be followed by healthcare professionals and patients for the safe and effective use of MenQuadfi have been included in the summary of product characteristics and the package leaflet.

As for all medicines, data on the use of MenQuadfi are continuously monitored. Side effects reported with MenQuadfi are carefully evaluated and any necessary action taken to protect patients.

Other information about MenQuadfi

MenQuadfi received a marketing authorisation valid throughout the EU on 18 November 2020.

Further information on MenQuadfi, including the package leaflet and assessment reports, can be found on the Agency's website: ema.europa.eu/medicines/human/EPAR/menquadfi.

For information about the availability of this medicine in your country, contact your [national competent authority](#).

This overview was last updated in 08-2026.