

World Meningitis Day 2017 - Key Messages

www.comomeningitis.org

#24HourMeningitis



**Join
Hands**
AGAINST MENINGITIS

Consider this year's key messages and incorporate them into your communications in the run up to and on the 24th April, World Meningitis Day.

1

Meningitis is a potentially deadly disease that affects more than 1 million people worldwide each year

- Deafness, limb loss, brain damage and seizures are among some of the devastating possible after-effects.

2

Meningitis can affect people of all ages and cause death within 24 hours

- Even with prompt diagnosis and treatment, around 10-20% of patients with bacterial meningitis will die within 24 to 48 hours after the onset of symptoms.
- Infants, adolescents and older people are among those at higher risk.

3

Some forms of meningitis are vaccine preventable

- Immunisation is a successful and cost effective way to protect the whole population.
- Currently available vaccines could prevent more than 90% of cases of bacterial meningitis.
- Speak to your local healthcare provider to learn which vaccines are available for you.

4

Don't wait until it threatens the life of someone you care about, learn what to look for and trust your instincts

- Trust your instincts if you spot: fever, rash, vomiting, headache, stiff neck, sensitivity to light or drowsiness.
- Awareness is key to prevention- now spread the word!