World Meningitis Day 2017 - Key Messages

www.comomeningitis.org  #24HourMeningitis

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!

Contact: For more information on World Meningitis Day or to share your own campaign materials, please contact CoMO’s Lucy Swain at editor@comomeningitis.org.