SUPPORT FOR YOU

Meningitis & septicaemia
We are here to help

www.meningitis.org
Here to Help

Recovering from the impact of meningitis and septicaemia isn’t always easy. Facing the future can be harder still but we are here to help.

We know from over 20 years of supporting people in the UK and Ireland, that meningitis and septicaemia can have an enormous impact on individuals and families. Suddenly you are in a whole new world of specialist consultants and complex medical language.

That’s why we have brought all our support services together as MeningitisWise, and why we make our free information widely available.
We can help

People affected by meningitis and septicaemia may have complex or unusual problems and can find themselves at a loss as to who to turn to for the right answers. Most people recover well, but it can feel lonely and scary being at home again after days or weeks of hospital care.

Meningitis and septicaemia are serious diseases so it is normal to feel very tired and anxious. Young children often seem clingy, irritable and more babyish than before they were ill. But these issues usually improve over time.

Follow up

- Children up to the age of 16 should have a hearing test as soon as possible, but within four weeks of being well enough to test
- Within six weeks of discharge children should also have a follow-up appointment to look for evidence of any long term complications
- Some people are left with disabilities and others have more subtle after effects that can cause difficulties later on. Call us to talk this through

Home visits

Our MeningitisWise team travel around the country visiting people who have experienced meningitis and septicaemia to talk through any questions or concerns they may have.
Befriending

We run a very popular telephone befriending programme offering support to anyone who has been affected by meningitis and septicaemia. Accredited by the Mentoring and Befriending Foundation. We have a network of more than 140 trained befrienders who volunteer their time to support and listen to others who have had a similar experience to their own. If you would like to speak to a befriender please get in touch with the team via the helpline, email or website.

Bereavement support and services

Our MeningitisWise team are trained to work with bereaved people and are here for you – tailoring support to your individual needs. We can also provide more information about bereavement organisations local to you.

Disability rights and benefits

The disability rights and benefits system can be complex to navigate, especially if you have been ill or caring for someone who has had meningitis and septicaemia. Claimants may be entitled to a range of different financial and practical help they are not aware of. Please see www.meningitis.org/drb.meningitis.org or contact us to talk this through.
Membership and Campaigns

We have been supporting people affected by meningitis and septicaemia since the charity was established in 1989. We have a wealth of information resources and knowledge available for families and individuals.

We offer written and audio information in 22 languages, details of which are on our website.

We also invite people to join the charity as a Member. This gives you firsthand knowledge of what is new and updates you on our work. You can sign up for one of our campaigns, visit a research site, join us on a Member’s Day or help us raise awareness and fundraise to support our work.

About us

Our vision is for a world free from meningitis and septicaemia. That’s why we fund research into the prevention, detection and treatment of the diseases, promote education and awareness amongst the public and health professionals and provide support to those affected.

Our Patron, Paralympic gold medallist Jonnie Peacock with Junior Ambassador Sofia Crockatt and her running coach Vicky Huyton

Join us at one of our member’s days
We need your help

We are committed to saving lives and have invested around £17m/€21m in vital vaccine research and studies which speed up diagnosis and improve treatment. We also spend around £1m/€1.2m a year supporting families and raising awareness of the diseases among the public and health professionals with free information. If this leaflet has inspired you to help by donating or fundraising, please contact your local office or visit us online.

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