



MENINGITIS

MENINGITIS

Meningitis is an infection of the fluids around the spinal cord or the brain. Either viruses or bacteria cause this infection. People with viral meningitis often aren't very sick, but those with bacterial meningitis almost always get seriously ill. They might become deaf or have brain damage or lose arms or legs. Meningitis may start with a high fever, headache, or stiff neck. Someone with those symptoms should see a doctor immediately to find out the cause of their illness. People with bacterial meningitis can be treated with antibiotics if treatment begins early. Kissing is one way that bacterial meningitis can be spread, but it is not spread as easily as a cold or the flu. You will not get meningitis by touching someone or by being in the same room with them. If someone you live with has bacterial meningitis, you might have to take antibiotics to keep from getting the disease.