

Mayo Clinic Minute: What new college students should know about bacterial meningitis

Video	Audio
	Meningitis is a condition that inflames the membranes around the brain and spinal cord. While there are several forms of meningitis, an infection caused by bacteria is considered the most severe form, and may lead to seizures, vision loss or death if not treated quickly.
TINA ARDON, M.D. FAMILY MEDICINE Mayo Clinic	2:11 "Meningitis often presents with symptoms such as fever, a stiff neck, headache, maybe even mental status changes, and sometimes even a very distinct rash on the skin."
	Bacterial meningitis, also known as meningitis B, can spread by sneezing or kissing, and sharing straws or drinks, among other ways. Dr. Ardon says college students are a group at higher risk for contracting meningitis due to their living conditions.
	1:30 "They're in a dormitory, in residence halls, spending a lot of time together in close quarters."
	Preventing meningitis starts with two rounds of booster shots: one around 11 or 12 years old, and another at 16.
	2:52 "At college age, we have the opportunity to potentially boost the dose if it's been some time and also offer another vaccine that protects against meningitis B."
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm Alex Osiadacz.