

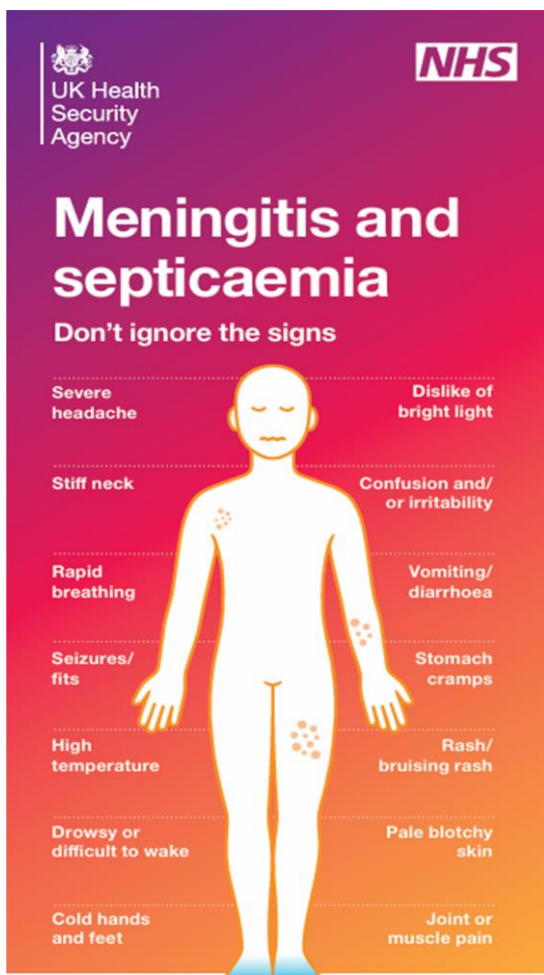


Please "Be kind" to our staff. A simple thank you, or a positive review could make the world of difference.

Send any comments and feedback to email: roccg.swallownestcarecoordinators@nhs.net



As part of NHS England's **Reasonable adjustments campaign** some patients with documented disabilities & or conditions which affect day to day living will soon be contacted by one of our Practice Nurses to discuss how we can help to make your healthcare experience easier, clearer and more accessible across all health and social care services in England.



What is meningococcal disease?

Meningococcal disease is a serious but uncommon illness caused by meningococcal bacteria. **It can lead to meningitis - inflammation of the lining of the brain - and sepsis (blood poisoning).** The onset can be sudden, which is why knowing the signs and symptoms, and acting quickly, is so important. There are multiple strains of meningococcal bacteria
- MenA, MenB, MenC, MenW, MenY

There is currently an outbreak of meningococcal disease (MenB) at Kent University. **There are currently no Men B catch up programmes outside of Kent where the outbreak has occurred.**

Transmission of MenB requires close and prolonged contact to spread including living in the same household and intimate contact such as kissing or sharing drinks or vapes. The bacteria are not as contagious as other infections such as measles and COVID-19.

Meningitis B vaccinations are offered to babies in the UK at 8 weeks, 12 weeks and 12 months.

Meningitis has many causes. You should still make sure you are up to date with the MMR and MenACWY vaccines, which help protect against other causes of meningitis.

The MenACWY vaccine is offered in school, usually in Year 9.

If you have missed the MenACWY vaccine in school and are still school aged please contact Intrahealth 03333 583 397 Option 6.

If you are in higher education most universities also offer catch up programmes, enquire with your university today!

If you are a school leaver up to age 25 you can contact the GP surgery to have your vaccination here.



Covid Spring Booster

Anston vaccination centre is aiming to begin vaccinating on the weekend of the 11th of April and will be sending out invitations shortly.

Swallownest Health centre will be performing our own housebound vaccinations again this spring and we are aiming to begin this later in April and through May. Housebound patients please await a phone call.

This year any eligible housebound patients who have not already had it will be offered the RSV vaccination alongside the Covid Booster.

The booster criteria remains the same as last year and will be offered to those at highest risk of serious COVID-19 illness, including:

- **Adults aged 75 and over** (those turning 75 by 30 June 2026 are included)
- Residents in care homes for older adults
- Individuals aged 6 months and over who are immunocompromised.

Please be aware there must be at least 6 months from your previous vaccine, as such those who had their winter booster late may not be called until later on in May or June.



GP appointment?
Can't make it?
Don't need it?



DNA's Breakdown 313 patients did not attend their appointments last month That's **4%** of appointments.

Here is the Breakdown of some appointments that were missed.

- GP appointments – 81
- Nurse appointments & HCA (blood/BP /other clinics) – 226
- Other (minor ailments, paramedic, pharmacist etc)- 6

Appointments are valuable, and it's important that if you can't attend to let us know in plenty of time.

Did you know that the average cost of a GP appointment in the UK is ~£49?

To cancel an appointment please use the following options to allow someone else to use it.

call us on 0114 433 3888 the following options appear: -

Press 1 to cancel your appointment via an auto attendant.

Advisor if you also need to rebook.

You can also cancel by emailing syicb-rotherham.swallownestnoreply@nhs.net

Our next closed afternoon for training is

Thursday 16th April 2026

Closed Bank Holiday days

Friday 3rd April and Monday 9th April

This month we welcome to the practice Dr Eric Kelley who starts with us the second week of April.

The Patient Participation Group Annual General meeting is Thursday 16th April at 6pm in the large meeting room on the second Floor and will be open to the public.