

Things To Know: *Neisseria Meningitidis*

Neisseria meningitidis is a normal human bacteria that can potentially cause a serious, invasive meningococcal disease like Meningitis.

Some people have this bacteria in the back of their throat without being ill. This is called being a carrier.

This bacteria is usually **harmless** to carriers

Transmission occurs via **air** by periods of close contact



Carried in the **upper respiratory tract**

Testing is done by **throat swab**



Groups living in **dorms** and socializing have a **higher %** of carriage

Carriage rates peak in young **adults** at age **19**



Vaccines

are recommended for:

- Infants
- Adolescents and young adults
- People with immunodeficiency disorders



Our study aims to evaluate what percentage of UofL college students are carriers of meningococcal bacteria which will help define the need for vaccination.

