In the past **three years**, more than **34 U.S. college campuses** were impacted by meningococcal disease.

**Get Educated:**

Teens and young adults are at increased risk for meningococcal disease, a rare but dangerous infection also known as bacterial meningitis.

Meningococcal serogroup B (or MenB) is the most common cause of recent meningococcal disease outbreaks at US college campuses.

The disease can make you very sick, very fast. It can lead to death or complications, such as limb amputations or organ damage, **within 24 hours**.

**Take the Pledge2Prevent by Getting Vaccinated:**

2 kinds of vaccines together offer the best protection against 5 major serogroups (or types) of meningococcal disease:

- **MenACWY vaccine:** one dose at age 11-12 years with a booster at age 16 years
- **PLUS**
- **MenB vaccine:** 2-3 doses, preferably at age 16-18 years (or up to 23 years)

**Learn the Symptoms Too:**

Vaccination can’t prevent every case. Early symptoms are often mistaken for flu or other illnesses.

Symptoms may include but aren’t limited to high fever, purplish rash, headache, stiff neck, confusion, nausea, vomiting, exhaustion.

**Claudette’s Tragic Loss**

(What Happened to Cherice)

Claudette’s daughter Cherice was a healthy and outstanding college student, with dreams of becoming a doctor. During spring break of her sophomore year, Cherice developed an upset stomach, high fever and stiff neck.

She went to the school’s health services where she was diagnosed with the flu and told to go home and rest. The next morning, Cherice’s roommate discovered she had passed away during the night. It was only after Cherice’s death that Claudette learned vaccination might have saved her daughter’s life.

“Losing Cherice turned my world upside down. I want all college students to learn about meningococcal disease and get vaccinated even if it’s not required by your college or state.”

Visit the National Meningitis Association’s website at [nmaus.org](http://nmaus.org) to learn more.

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