The National Meningitis Trust has been supporting meningitis sufferers and their families since its foundation in 1986. Our services have developed over the years, based upon our experiences of working with people who have come to us for help.

24-HOUR HELPLINE
0845 6000 800

(Calls cost the same as a local call)

The Helpline is here for those who are in any way concerned, anxious, or distressed about meningitis and meningococcal disease.

A nurse is available to talk to you and to provide information and support. The service is confidential and you do not have to give your name.

THE NATIONAL MENINGITIS TRUST

The Trust is a registered charity founded in 1986 by people who had a direct experience of meningitis. It leads the fight against meningitis by:

- producing an extensive range of information material to make people aware of the disease;
- funding research into vaccines and treatment;
- offering a wide range of support for people affected by meningitis/meningococcal disease.

24-Hour nurse-led Helpline (0845 6000 800) - calls charged at local rate - available for anyone distressed or anxious about meningitis/meningococcal disease and needing someone to talk to.

One to One Contact - an opportunity to share your experiences with someone who has been in a similar situation.

Rehabilitation - advisory service on rehabilitation following meningitis/meningococcal disease.

Financial Grants - (for UK residents) to improve the quality of life for meningitis sufferers and to assist families.

Counselling - a UK-wide professional service for those requiring more intense support as a direct result of the trauma of meningitis/meningococcal disease.

You could play an important part in helping to reduce the effects of meningitis. If you feel you can help the Trust in any way, please contact us at the address below.

The National Meningitis Trust needs your support to continue its work. If you want to make a donation, please send it to the address below. Every penny you can send will make a difference in the fight to overcome this devastating disease. THANK YOU.

The information contained in this leaflet is correct at time of going to print, but may be subject to change.

The National Meningitis Trust
Fem House, Bath Road, Stroud, Glos GL5 3TJ
Phone/Minicom: 01453 768000 Fax: 01453 768001
Web site: http://www.meningitis-trust.org.uk
E-mail: support@meningitis-trust.org.uk
24-Hour Helpline: 0845 6000 800

Registered charity number 801016

Meningitis support services

This leaflet explains the services and support we provide for sufferers of meningitis and/or meningococcal disease, and their families

- 24-Hour nurse-led Helpline
- Emotional Support
- One-to-One Contact
- Counselling
- Rehabilitation Advisory Service
- Financial Support Grants
EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

Often during one of the most difficult and traumatic times in the life of an individual, the National Meningitis Trust has been there to help. Because meningitis can develop so quickly, it can be particularly distressing and devastating. Those who are affected by meningitis, as well as their loved ones, often need help to cope with the trauma. The Trust recognises that, in many cases, emotional support and comfort are needed.

Emotional support provided to the bereaved as a result of meningitis or meningococcal disease is an area where Trust staff have extensive experience. Families are often shocked by how rapidly death can result from the disease. They can feel guilty and angry and often question why healthy people can die so quickly. These and many other concerns can be discussed with our staff.

If you are in need of support, or know someone who you feel needs emotional support as a result of meningitis or meningococcal disease, please contact the Helpline.

ONE-TO-ONE CONTACT

We offer a “Contact” service whereby someone who has had an experience of meningitis is willing to share their experience. If you wish to talk with somebody who is sympathetic and who has been in a similar situation to yourself, please contact the Helpline.

Many people have expressed their gratitude for the way we were able to help them. If you have had an experience of meningitis or meningococcal disease, and would be prepared to share this experience by being a contact, please give the Helpline a call.

COUNSELLING

In January 1999, the Trust launched a professional UK-wide Counselling Service. This service is available to persons who require more intense support after being directly affected by the trauma that meningitis or meningococcal disease can cause. If you require further information about this service, please call the Counselling Services Manager on 01453 768000. A detailed information sheet will be sent to you upon request.

REHABILITATION ADVISORY SERVICE

The National Meningitis Trust works closely with organisations who specialise in the care of people with meningitis-related problems. We also have an in-depth library of information to enable us to point you in the appropriate direction for your needs. You can obtain this information by contacting our Helpline on 0845 6000 800 during normal office hours.

The Trust may be able to offer other ways of providing ongoing support. They include:

- Community Help Groups
- Family Forums
- Fundraising

If you are interested, please contact the National Meningitis Trust on its main office number 01453 768000.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT GRANTS

The National Meningitis Trust provides discretionary support grants (for UK residents) to enhance the quality of life for those who may have been affected by the disease. Finding the funds to help pay for specialist care, aids or equipment etc, can be difficult. The Trust understands that these situations are rarely budgeted for and therefore those who wish to apply for financial support grants will not be subject to a means test.

Financial support grants may be made available for:

- Purchase of special equipment or aids
- Travel and/or accommodation costs to attend treatment, care or training
- Respite care
- Funerals and/or headstones
- Refitting of existing home or transport for ease of mobility
- Re-education or special training

Grants may be made available directly in support of the individual or, in many instances, to their immediate family members who effectively care for them.

All support grant applications must be made through a third, professional party on your behalf. We do seek information from your GP and care worker if appropriate, and we sometimes seek advice from professionally qualified advisors. The allocation of grants is made on a regular basis and the decision of the Trust is final. Communication relating to refusals cannot be entered into.

To find out more about this service, please contact the Helpline on 0845 6000 800 during normal office hours.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE NOT ALONE.
THE NATIONAL MENINGITIS TRUST IS HERE TO HELP YOU.

This leaflet summarises the services offered by the Trust. If it does not specifically cover your area of concern please get in touch with us. We are here to help relieve your anxieties and distress and will do our utmost to support you.