

## **BACTERIAL MENINGITIS and SUSPECTED MENINGOCOCCAL SEPSIS**

### **Immediate management**

- Immediately refer all people with suspected meningococcal disease (meningitis with non-blanching rash or meningococcal septicaemia) or bacterial meningitis (without a non-blanching rash) to hospital
- Give antibiotic before transport to hospital, as long as this does not delay the transfer
  - 1<sup>st</sup> choice antibiotic - Benzylpenicillin
    - Child < one year: 300 mg IV or IM
    - Child one to nine years: 600 mg IV or IM
    - Adult and child > ten years: 1.2 g IV or IM
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> choice antibiotic - Ceftriaxone
    - Adult and child: 50 – 100 mg/kg up to 2 g IV or IM