

🗣️ **Key public health message (very important for your question)**

! **There is NO general community vaccination campaign**

- Vaccination is **targeted only to high-risk contacts**, mainly:
 - Students at specific universities
 - People with **close contact exposure** (e.g. same household, intimate contact)
 - UKHSA has **explicitly stated no evidence of wider spread beyond this group**
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🔍 **Why patients in Surrey are being told they're "not entitled"**

Because under current UK guidance:

1. MenB vaccine (Bexsero)

- Routinely given only to **infants (since 2015)**
- Not part of routine programme for adults/young adults

2. During this outbreak

- Vaccine is being used as **outbreak control (ring vaccination)**
 - Not offered to:
 - General public
 - People outside exposure network (e.g. Surrey residents without link)
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⚠️ **What about private vaccination?**

- There is **huge demand + shortages nationally**
- Experts are **not recommending panic vaccination** for the general public right now

Reasons:

- Protection is **not immediate (takes ~1-2 weeks)**
 - May **not fully cover the outbreak strain**
 - Risk to the general population remains **very low unless close contact**
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What you can tell patients (practical summary)

You can confidently explain:

- “This outbreak is **localised and linked to specific contacts in Kent.**”
 - “There is **no current recommendation for community-wide MenB vaccination.**”
 - “Vaccines are being given only to **identified high-risk groups.**”
 - “For people in Surrey without exposure, **risk remains very low.**”
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When vaccination *would* be considered

- Close contact of a confirmed case
- Part of a defined outbreak cohort