

Introduction

Meningitis is the inflammation of the protective membranes covering the brain and spinal cord., and it is usually caused by an infection of the fluid surrounding the brain and spinal cord. The meninges is the system of membranes which envelops the central nervous system.

It consists of 3 layers which are Dura mater, Arachnoid mater, and Pia mater.

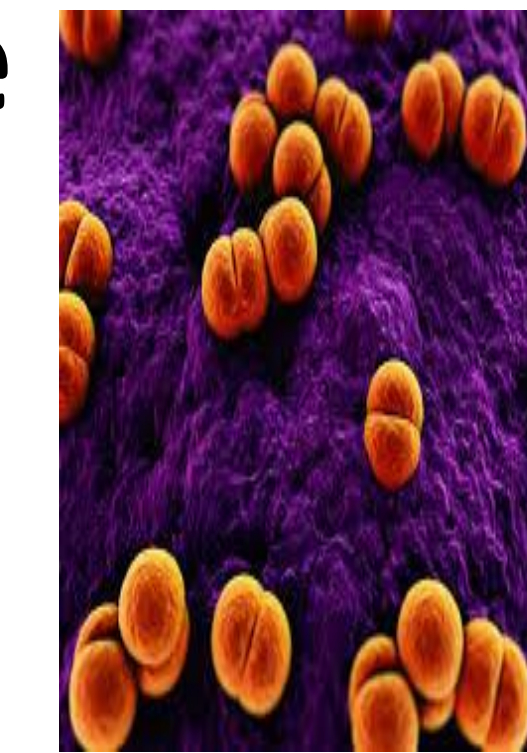
Symptoms

- Headache
- Altered mental status
- High Fever
- Phonophobia
- Photophobia
- Stiffness of the neck



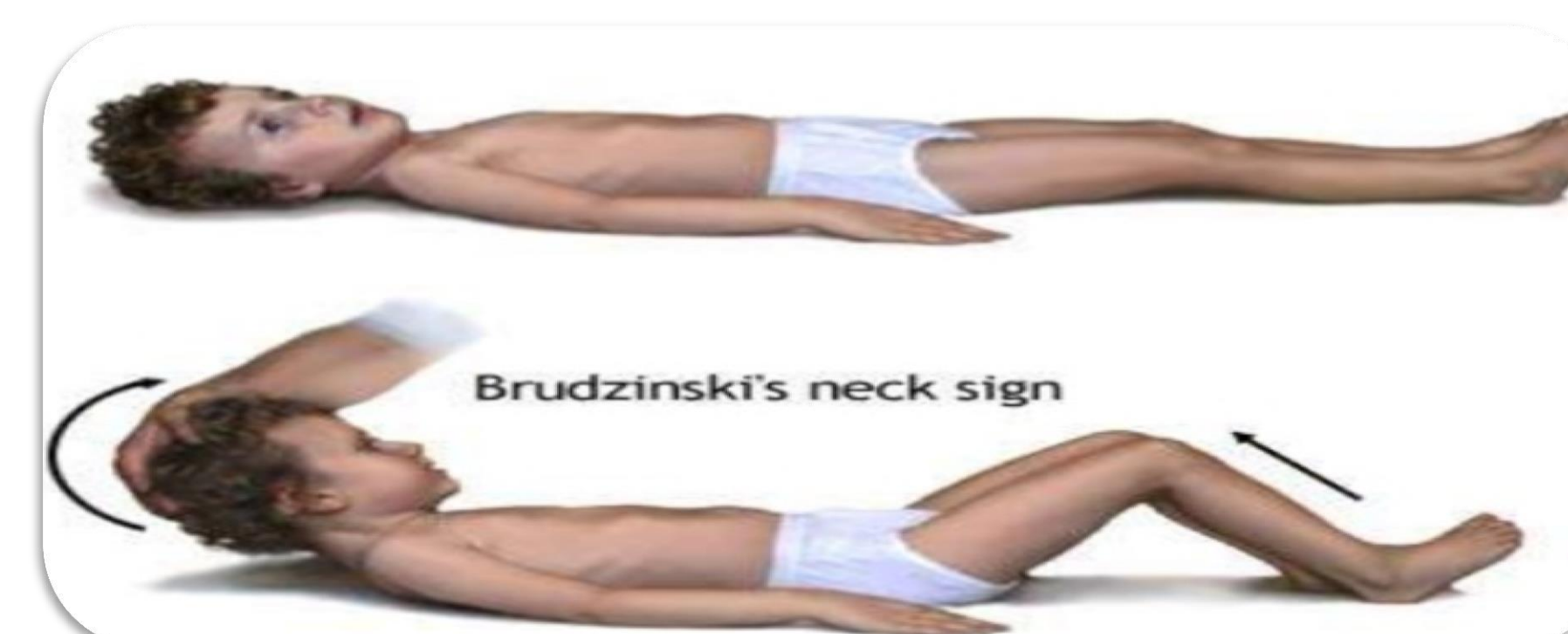
Causes

- Bacterial
Haemophilus influenzae
Meningococcus
- Viral
Enterovirus/HIV
- Fungal
Cryptococcus/Histoplasma



Diagnosis

- Blood test/CBC/ Blood culture
- Physical examination by positive kernig signs, brudzinski signs
- History collection
- CSF evaluation for proteins, glucose and leukocytes.
- CT scan and MRI pressure



Complications

Brain damage/Cerebral edema
 Hearing loss /Tissue damage



Treatment

- Antibiotics for bacterial meningitis are given depending on the bacteria causing the infection.
- However, Antibiotics are not effective in viral meningitis.
- Other medications and intravenous fluids can be used to treat symptoms such as brain swelling, shock, and seizures.



References

- CURRENT Medical Diagnosis and Treatment 1993
- <https://www.healthline.com/health/meningitis>
- <https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/9276.php#causes>