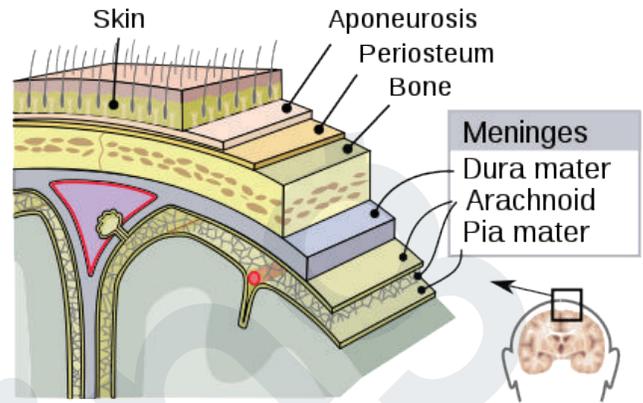


MENINGITIS PATHOCHART

PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

The meninges are tissue layers that surround both the brain and the spinal cord to provide cushion and protection as well as create cerebrospinal fluid. In Meningitis, they get inflamed, usually due to infection. This can cause symptoms that range from altered level of consciousness (due to inflammation in the brain) to nuchal rigidity or numbness & tingling (because of the effect on the spinal cord). Symptoms almost always begin as Altered LOC and involve some indication of infection.



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ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

- Fever
- Altered level of consciousness
- Nuchal rigidity
- Kernig's & Brudzinski's sign
- Lethargy
- Increased Intracranial Pressure
- Photophobia
- Seizures

DIAGNOSTICS

- Lumbar Puncture
- Clinical Findings
- X-ray
- CT Scan

NURSING PRIORITIES

- Manage Infectious Process
- Promote Comfort
- Optimize Cognitive Ability
- Prevent Injury

THERAPEUTIC MANAGEMENT

- Droplet Isolation Precautions
- Assess LOC q2-4 hours
- Monitor ICP / CPP
- Seizure precautions

THERAPEUTIC MANAGEMENT

- Analgesics
- Antibiotics