

Irritability

Agitation

May develop:

- Photophobia
- Delirium
- Hallucinations
- Aggressive behavior
- Drowsiness
- Stupor
- Coma

Nuchal rigidity; may progress to opisthotonos

Positive Kernig and Brudzinski signs

Hyperactivity but variable reflex responses

Signs and symptoms peculiar to individual organisms:

- Petechial or purpuric rashes (meningococcal infection), especially when associated with a shock-like state
- Joint involvement (meningococcal and *Haemophilus influenzae* infection)
- Chronically draining ear (pneumococcal meningitis)