Who would have known 3 pathogens could completely change a person’s brain. The invasion of these pathogens causes meningitis, a deadly and contagious bacterial infection that inflames the lining of the brain and spinal cord. These pathogens are Neisseria meningitides, Streptococcus pneumonia, group B Streptococcus and Escherichia coli. The next few paragraphs will provide information regarding a study on how these pathogens managed to enter the brain to cause this fatal infection.

The bacteria’s mentioned above can be spread through coughing and sneezing, or direct contact of bodily fluids. This bacterium then enters the body and into the bloodstream through open pathways such as ears, nose, or other exposed part of the body. Although the central nervous system is affected by these pathogens, the meninges aren’t. These bacteria do this by taking advantage of a host immune cell, passing the central nervous system barriers that should in fact stop the pathogen from entering.

http://www.nature.com/nrmicro/journal/vaop/ncurrent/full/nrmicro.2016.178.html