

# Pneumococcal Vaccination Pocket Guide

## INDICATIONS

Pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPV) is indicated for persons

65 years or older, or age 2-64 years with any of the following:

- Chronic cardiovascular disease (e.g., CHF, cardiomyopathies)
- Chronic pulmonary disease (e.g., emphysema or COPD, not asthma)
- Chronic liver disease
- Diabetes mellitus
- Chronic renal failure or nephrotic syndrome
- CSF leaks
- Functional or anatomic asplenia
- Immunocompromised and immunosuppressive conditions (e.g., disease, chemotherapy, high-dose steroids)
- HIV infection
- Cochlear implants
- Environments or setting with increased risk (e.g., long-term care, group homes)

## CONTRAINDICATIONS AND PRECAUTIONS

- Previous anaphylactic reaction to PPV or any of its components
- Allow 2 months between doses of PCV7 (Prevnar) and PPV
- Moderate to severe acute illness

## UNKNOWN HISTORY

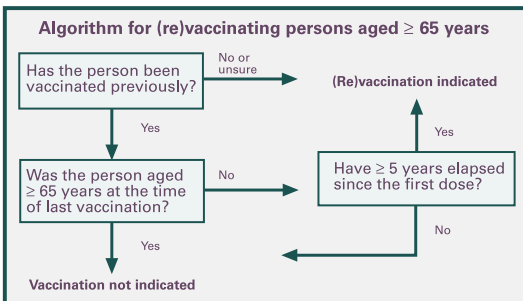
Make a reasonable effort to obtain a vaccination history. When in doubt, vaccinate. The risks of invasive pneumococcal disease outweigh the risks of revaccination.

## VACCINE ADMINISTRATION

Administer 0.5 ml PPV in deltoid muscle:

- IM: 1 - 1.5" 22-25 gauge needle

For immunization information contact the CDC's National Immunization Program: 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636), email [NIPINFO@cdc.gov](mailto:NIPINFO@cdc.gov) or online [www.cdc.gov/nip](http://www.cdc.gov/nip)



## REVACCINATION

Revaccinate once if  $\geq 5$  years have passed since first dose and:

- Patient was  $< 65$  years when first vaccinated and is now  $\geq 65$  years, OR
- Patient is  $\geq 2$  to 64 years with:
  - » Functional or anatomic asplenia
  - » Immunosuppression
  - » Transplant
  - » Chronic renal failure
  - » Nephrotic syndrome

## TALKING POINTS WITH PATIENTS

- Flu and its most common complication, pneumonia, is a leading cause of death in Washington.
- The “pneumonia shot” is 60-70% effective in preventing most strains of pneumonia from spreading to the blood (bacteremia) or brain (meningitis). Immunization can prevent prolonged hospitalization or death.
- The vaccine is important because pneumococcal disease is increasingly drug-resistant and hard to treat.
- Most pneumococcal deaths are in people age 65 or older.
- Medicare Part B and most health plans pay for the vaccine.
- You cannot get pneumonia from this shot.
- The vaccine is safe; the most common side effect is a sore arm lasting 24-48 hours.
- The “pneumonia shot” can be given at any time during the year.
- Receiving PPV at the same time as a flu shot is recommended for eligible persons.



This PPV campaign was brought to you by the Immunization Action Coalition of Washington, a program of WithinReach  
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