



Pneumococcal Conjugate (Pevnar®13) Vaccine

What is it?

Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine protects you from bacteria called *Streptococcus pneumoniae* (pneumococcus). These bacteria can cause infections in the blood, brain, spinal cord, lungs, sinuses and middle ear. Severe infections can cause death. For more information, see Facts About...Pneumococcal Diseases.

How effective is the vaccine?

Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine is 86% to 97% effective in preventing pneumococcal disease in children less than 5 years of age.

Who should get the vaccine?

The following people can receive the Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine for free:

- Children 2 months to 4 years of age
- People who are at more risk of the disease because of chronic health issues.
- High risk clients can be immunized for free by their health care provider. Please refer to high risk criteria in the Publicly Funded Immunization Schedule for Ontario.

What is the schedule for the vaccine?

- Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine is routinely given at 2 months, 4 months and 12 months of age to all children.

Are there side effects with the vaccine?

Side effects are usually mild and last a short time, the most common side effects are redness, pain and swelling where the needle was given.

If you think a serious reaction is developing, seek medical attention right away. Any unusual or significant changes in your health or your child's health after the immunization should be reported to a health care provider and the Health Department.

Who should NOT get the vaccine?

- Individuals who have a severe allergy (anaphylaxis) to any previous vaccine(s) or to any component of the vaccine.

Do children need the vaccine to go to daycare and/or school?

- In Ontario, 3 doses of the pneumococcal vaccine are required under the Child Care and Early Years Act (CCEYA).

Don't forget to update your immunization record!

After you or your child receives a vaccine, update your immunization record (yellow card). For children in school or childcare, please visit www.durham.ca/immunize to report online, or call the Health Department to update your child's immunization records. Keep your records in a safe place!

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905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 | durham.ca/health

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.

