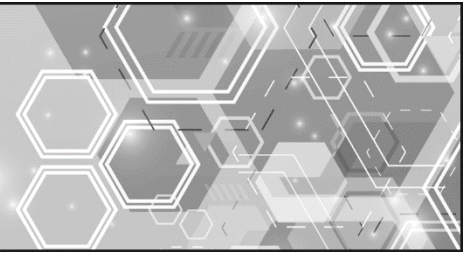




Durham Region Health Department **Facts about...**



Pneumococcal Conjugate (Pneu-C-20) Vaccine Prevnar 20®

What is it?

Pneumococcal conjugate vaccines protect you from bacteria called *Streptococcus pneumoniae* (pneumococcus). Most pneumococcal infections are mild but can invade parts of the body that are normally bacteria-free. When this happens, a serious disease called invasive pneumococcal disease (IPD) can develop, which can cause serious symptoms, lifelong disability or even death. For more information, see [Facts About...Pneumococcal Disease](#).

How effective is the vaccine?

Pneumococcal conjugate (Pneu-C-20) vaccine has been approved for use by Health Canada, is safe, and protects against up to 20 different types of bacteria that cause pneumococcal disease.

Who should get the vaccine?

The following people can get the Pneu-C-20 vaccine for free:

- All adults aged 65 years and older.
- People 6 weeks and older that are at high risk for IPD. Please see the high-risk criteria in the Publicly Funded Immunization Schedule for Ontario.

What is the schedule for the vaccine?

- 1 dose of Pneu-C-20 vaccine is usually given at 65 years of age or older.
- For people 6 weeks and older who meet high-risk criteria, talk to a health care provider about the vaccine schedule that is right for you.
- The minimum time between pneumococcal conjugate vaccine doses is 8 weeks.

Are there side effects with the vaccine?

- Pneu-C-20 vaccine is safe and well tolerated. Side effects are usually mild and last a short time.
- The most common side effects are soreness, redness and/or swelling where the needle was given. Other mild side effects may include:
 - Fever
 - Drowsiness

... over

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.



- Loss of appetite
 - Headache
 - Muscle or joint ache
 - Chills
 - Fussiness (irritability) – infants only
- If you think you are having a serious reaction, see a health care provider right away. Any new or important changes in your health after a vaccine should be reported to a health care provider and the Durham Region Health Department.

Who should NOT get the vaccine?

People who have had a severe allergic reaction to a previous dose of pneumococcal vaccine or to any part of the vaccine.

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, inform Durham Region Health Department of your child's vaccine. Health care providers do not report vaccines to the Health Department automatically. Keep your records updated and in a safe place.

After your child receives a vaccine, update Durham Region Health Department:

- Online at durham.ca/immunize (you may also attach a photo of your record), or
- By calling 1-800-841-2729 or 905-666-6242, or
- By faxing your vaccine/immunization record to 905-666-6216.

The [Immunization Connect Ontario \(ICON\)](#) tool allows you to see your child's vaccine/immunization record online anytime.

October 3, 2025

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.

