

# Learn About the Pneumococcal Vaccine

## What is the pneumococcal vaccine?

The pneumococcal vaccine helps prevent pneumococcal disease, a contagious bacterial infection that can lead to pneumonia, meningitis, and sepsis.



## Who needs this vaccine?

Pneumococcal vaccines are recommended for people with:

- Long-term health conditions, such as diabetes or heart disease
- Weakened immunity
- Current or past cigarette use

## Which vaccines are available?

There are 2 types of these vaccines:

1. Pneumococcal conjugate (PCV13, PCV15, and PCV 20)
2. Pneumococcal polysaccharide (PPSV23)

## What are the side effects?

- Pain or swelling at the injection site
- Fever
- Lack of appetite
- Headache

## Recommendations for the Pneumococcal Vaccine



## The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends PC15 (Vaxneuvance) or PCV20 (Pevnar20) for:

- Adults 65 years or older
- Adults 19–64 years of age with certain medical conditions or risk factors

## Additional notes:

- Adults who received a previous pneumococcal vaccine (PC13 or PCV7) should talk to a provider for available options to complete their series.
- You can get a pneumococcal vaccine and a flu vaccine at the same visit.



***The pneumococcal vaccine is usually well tolerated and much safer than getting the disease.***

Source: CDC. Pneumococcal Vaccination. Available at [www.cdc.gov/pneumococcal/vaccination.html](http://www.cdc.gov/pneumococcal/vaccination.html)