

Title: Pneumococcal Vaccination Guidelines

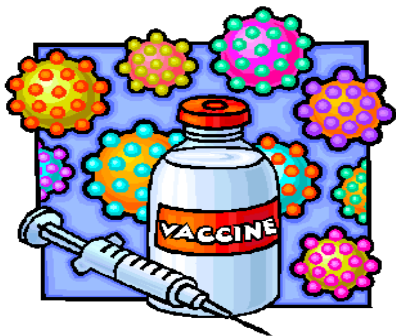
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Abstract: More research is needed to further evaluate cost-effectiveness and efficacy of PPV strategies (single vs. multiple doses). However, weak evidence suggests that for patients aged 65-80 who have not received the PPV previously, a single-dose PPV strategy is both clinically and economically indicated. For patients 65 and above who have already received one dose of the PPV vaccine, the decision whether to revaccinate depends of vaccine tolerance and the cost-effectiveness/willingness-to-pay threshold used.

This document was created by a medical student enrolled in the Primary Care Clerkship at the University of Minnesota Medical School as part of the course project. The aim of the project is to present information on a medical topic in the format of a patient education handout. It does not necessarily reflect the views of the University of Minnesota Medical School physicians and faculty. These materials are provided for informational purposes only and are in no way intended to take the place of the advice and recommendations of your personal health care provider. The information provided may no longer be up to date since it has not been reviewed since the date of creation. The information provided should not be used to diagnose a health problem or disease, or as a means of determining treatment. In the event of a medical emergency, immediately contact a doctor or call 911.



The Pneumococcal Vaccination (PPV23)

More Info:

What is the Pneumococcal Vaccination (PPV23)?

The vaccine contains sugars which look like 23 different strains of the bacteria to your body. After injection it causes your body to form immunity against these.

Center for Disease Control:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/pneumo/default.htm>

Medicare Website:

<http://www.medicare.gov/health/pneumococcal.asp>

Why You May Want to
Consider Protecting Yourself

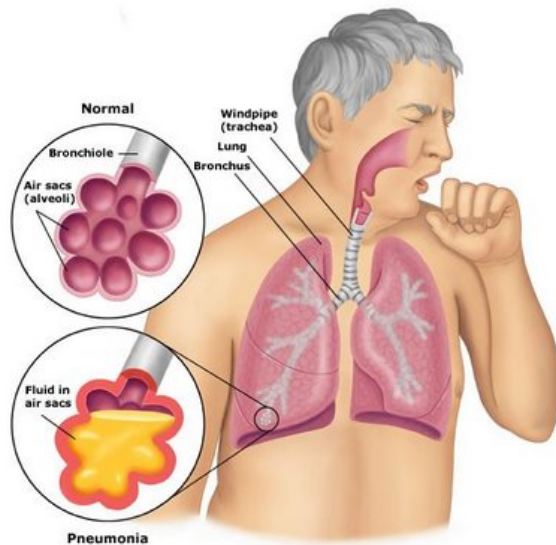
Who should get a Pneumoccal Vaccination?

- All adults 65+
- People with chronic illness (ie. diabetes, heart, lung, or kidney disease).
- People with weak immune systems (ie. HIV, cancer, or with no spleen)



What is Pneumococcus?

- This bacteria lives normally in the upper respiratory tract of healthy adults.
- Certain disease states cause people to get sick from this bug, especially in the lungs (pneumonia) or lining of the brain (meningitis).



Why are these infections dangerous?

- Pneumonia is a leading cause of hospitalization and death in the elderly and ill.
- Meningitis can cause brain damage or even death if not treated early.



How long does the vaccination last?

- 5 to 10 years

Who should get revaccinated?

- People >65 whose had the first vaccine before age 65 and over 5 years ago
- People with certain chronic diseases or weak immune systems should receive a second dose 5 years after the first dose.



How do people get pneumonia and meningitis?

By breathing in the bacteria from the air or by contacting the secretions of others.

What are possible side effects of the vaccination?

- Local reaction, muscle aches, nausea, or fever are common.
- Rarely serious allergic reaction (ie. rash, itching, or trouble breathing) can occur.

How much does the vaccination cost?

- \$15-\$50
- It's FREE if you have Medicare!

