

CONTRAINDICATIONS

(mild illness is not a contraindication)

- Anaphylactic reaction to a previous dose or to any component of the vaccine, including thimerosal.
- Neurological symptoms following previous dose.
- Acute, moderate, or severe illness with or without fever (temporary contraindication).

Note: Pregnancy and breastfeeding are not contraindications for this vaccine; review the manufacturer's package insert.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Local reactions (e.g., pain, swelling, or erythema at site of injection) reported more frequently after a second dose of vaccine than after a first.

Systemic reactions (e.g., fever and myalgia) occur in <1% of patients vaccinated.

These do not represent contraindications to vaccination and must be weighted against the significant morbidity and mortality caused by pneumococcal disease.

TALKING POINTS WITH PATIENTS

- 40,000 Americans die from pneumococcal disease every year.

- Pneumococcal disease is now becoming resistant to the drugs that were once effective in treating it.
- Most pneumococcal deaths are in people >65 years.
- The most common side effect is a sore arm lasting 24 to 48 hours.
- It's okay to get the PPV23 at the same time as the flu shot (by separate injection in the other arm).

References

CDC. (2000). Pneumococcal Disease. *Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases—6th Edition*.
CDC. (1997). Prevention of Pneumococcal Disease. *MMWR*. 46:RR-8. Massachusetts Department of Public Health. (2000). Adult Immunization Guidelines—March 2000.

This information was brought to you by:
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November 2003

PNEUMOCOCCAL POLYSACCHARIDE VACCINE 23-VALENT (PPV23)

POCKET REFERENCE

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INDICATIONS

All persons ≥ 65 years.

Persons 2-64 years who have chronic illness:

- Cardiovascular disease (e.g., CHF, cardiomyopathies)
- Chronic pulmonary disease
- Diabetes mellitus
- CSF leaks
- Alcoholism, chronic liver disease

Persons 2-64 years who are immunocompromised:

- Hodgkin's disease, lymphoma, leukemia, or multiple myeloma
- Chronic renal failure or nephrotic syndrome
- Damaged spleen or no spleen
- Conditions such as organ transplants associated with immunosuppression
- Immunosuppressive therapy, including long-term corticosteroids, radiation, and certain cancer drugs

Persons 2-64 years who live with HIV infections.

Persons 2-64 years who reside in long term care facilities.

Persons 2-64 years who are Native Americans or Alaskan Natives.

VACCINE ADMINISTRATION

Pneumococcal vaccine is administered intramuscularly or subcutaneously as one 0.5 mL dose. It may be administered at the same time as influenza vaccine by separate injection in the other arm.

REVACCINATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Routine revaccination is **not** advised.

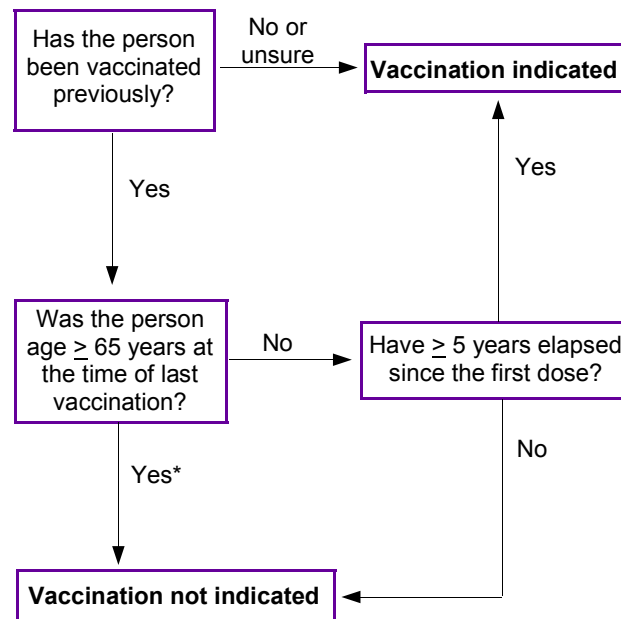
Revaccination **once**, five years after the first dose, is indicated for:

- Persons ≥ 65 years, if they were <65 years at the time of the previous vaccination
- Persons 2-64 years at highest risk for complications, or whose antibodies decline rapidly

UNKNOWN HISTORY

When vaccination status is unknown, the CDC recommends vaccination.

VACCINATING PERSONS ≥ 65 YEARS



*Note: for any person who has received a dose of pneumococcal vaccine at ≥ 65 years, revaccination is not indicated.

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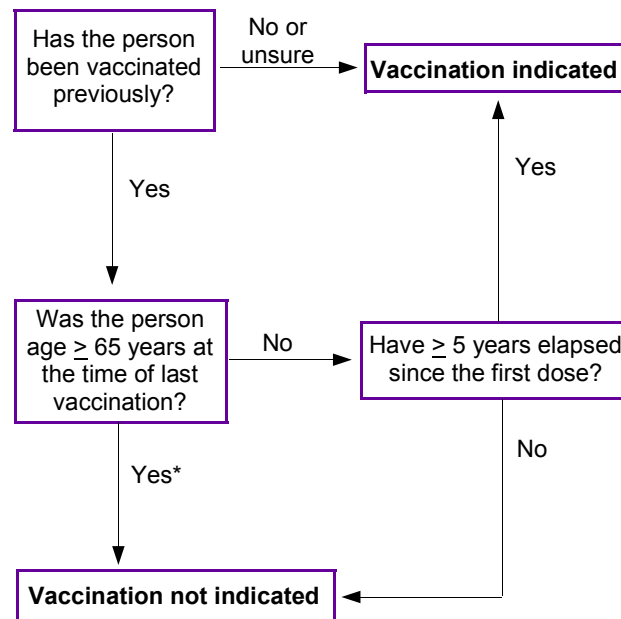
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