



Consent for Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Immunization

For use at Alberta Health Services (AHS) immunization programs. Use this form when a parent or alternate decision-maker is **not** able to be with the person being immunized at an AHS immunization service. An alternate decision-maker could be an agent, guardian, specific decision-maker or co-decision-maker. The parent or alternate decision-maker should **complete this form** and **send it** with the person being immunized, to the AHS immunization service. For alternate decision-makers – please also send a copy of documents to show that you are authorized to be the alternate decision-maker.

| Personal information for the person being immunized | |
|---|--|
| Name <i>(Last, First, Middle)</i> | Date of birth <i>(yyyy-Mon-dd)</i> |
| Personal health number (PHN) | Gender |
| Health information for the person being immunized. If you need more space, use the other side of this form. | |
| Does this person have any allergies? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, describe | |
| Does this person have any chronic illness? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, describe <small>(please list all if more than one)</small> | |
| Is this person taking any medicine? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, describe | |
| Has this person had pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine before? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, when | |
| Has this person ever had a side effect from pneumococcal immunization? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, describe | |
| Consent | |
| I confirm that I have read the pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine information. I know about the risks, benefits, and common side effects of this vaccine. | |
| Any questions I may have had about this person getting this vaccine have been answered by calling the local public health office or Health Link at 811. I understand the information I have been given. | |
| I consent to this person getting the pneumococcal polysaccharide immunization. | |
| I understand that I may withdraw this consent at any time by calling the local public health office or healthcare provider giving the pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine. | |
| I confirm that I have the legal authority to consent to this immunization. | |
| Printed name of person giving consent | Relationship to person <input type="checkbox"/> Parent (with legal authority to consent) <input type="checkbox"/> Guardian/Legal representative <input type="checkbox"/> Co-decision-maker <input type="checkbox"/> Specific decision-maker <input type="checkbox"/> Agent |
| Daytime phone number | Other phone number |
| Signature of person giving consent | Date <i>(yyyy-Mon-dd)</i> |

Alberta Health Services collects health information according to Section 20 of the *Health Information Act* (HIA). This information is used to provide health services, determine eligibility for health services, or to carry out any other purpose authorized by the HIA. If you have any questions about this, please ask the healthcare provider giving the immunization or contact your local public health office. If you do not know your local public health office, call Health Link at 811 to get this information.

Pneumococcal Polysaccharide (PNEUMO-P) Vaccine

Immunization protects you from disease. Get protected, get immunized.

- **Vaccines make your immune system stronger. They build antibodies to help prevent diseases.**
- **Immunization is safe. It is much safer to get immunized than to get this disease.**

What is the PNEUMO-P vaccine?

The PNEUMO-P vaccine protects against 23 strains (types) of the bacteria *Streptococcus pneumoniae* that cause pneumococcal disease. Over 90% of pneumococcal disease is caused by these 23 strains.

Who should have the PNEUMO-P vaccine?

You should get the PNEUMO-P vaccine if you:

- are age 65 years or older
- live in a long-term care facility
- are between the ages of 2 years and 64 years and have a high risk of serious pneumococcal disease because of health problems, such as heart, lung, kidney, or liver problems, diabetes, or a weak immune system
- have other risks such as homelessness

How many doses do I need?

Healthy people age 65 years or older need 1 dose.

If you have certain health problems, you may need 1 or 2 doses of this vaccine at an earlier age. Check with your healthcare provider to find out if you need doses at an earlier age and how many.

You still need a dose when you turn age 65 years, even if you already had the vaccine.

Are there other vaccines that protect against pneumococcal disease?

Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PNEU-C13) is another type of pneumococcal vaccine. Children age 4 years and younger get this vaccine. You may also get it if you had your spleen removed, have a weak immune system, or have other health problems.

If you need both the PNEUMO-P and PNEU-C13 vaccines, it is best to get the PNEU-C13 vaccine first. The 2 vaccines must be carefully spaced so you do not get them too close together.

How well does the vaccine work?

In older adults and high-risk groups, the protection against a serious infection from pneumococcal disease is 50% to 80%.

This protection may weaken after 5 to 10 years, but more doses of the vaccine may not boost protection.

Where can I get the PNEUMO-P vaccine?

You can get the vaccine at a public health office in your area. You may also be able to get it from your family doctor or pharmacist.

Are there side effects from the PNEUMO-P vaccine?

There can be side effects from the PNEUMO-P vaccine, but they tend to be mild and go away in a few days. Side effects may include:

- redness, warmth, swelling, or feeling sore where you had the needle
- feeling tired
- headache
- fever
- body aches

It is important to stay at the clinic for 15 minutes after your vaccine. Some people may have a rare but serious allergic reaction called anaphylaxis. If anaphylaxis happens, you will get medicine to treat the symptoms.

It is rare to have a serious side effect after a vaccine. Call Health Link at 811 to report any serious or unusual side effects.

How can I manage side effects?

- To help with soreness and swelling, put a cool, wet cloth over the area where you had the needle.
- There is medicine to help with fever or pain. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure what medicine or dosage to take. Follow the directions on the package.
- Children under the age of 18 years should **not** take aspirin because it can cause serious health problems.
- Some people with health problems, such as a weak immune system, must call their doctor if they get a fever. If you have been told to do this, call your doctor even if you think the fever is from the vaccine.

Who should not have the PNEUMO-P vaccine?

You may not be able to have the vaccine if you:

- have an allergy to parts of the vaccine
- had a severe or unusual side effect after this vaccine or one like it

Check with your doctor or public health nurse before you get the vaccine.

You can still have the vaccine if you have a mild illness, such as a cold or fever. Always tell your healthcare provider if you have allergies or if you have had a side effect from a vaccine in the past.

For More Information



Call Health Link at **811**



Go to **ImmunizeAlberta.ca**



Go to **MyHealth.Alberta.ca**

Facts about pneumococcal disease

What is pneumococcal disease?

Pneumococcal disease:

- is caused by bacteria
- can lead to lung, airway, blood, and middle ear infections and meningitis (an infection of the fluid and lining that cover the brain and spinal cord)
- is the main cause of bacterial blood infections and meningitis in young children
- is the main cause of pneumonia (a type of lung infection) in adults
- causes 500,000 deaths worldwide each year in children under age 5 years

When adults with pneumococcal disease have a blood infection, 1 in 20 may die.

Who is most at risk?

You are most at risk of having a serious infection if you:

- are very young or very old
- live with certain health problems
- smoke
- are addicted to alcohol or use drugs

How does it spread?

Pneumococcal disease spreads through:

- coughing and sneezing
- saliva during kissing, sharing food, or sharing toys

Even if you do not have symptoms, you can still spread the disease.