



# Pneumonia Vaccine

## What you need to know about pneumonia

***Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine*** can prevent pneumococcal disease.

**Pneumococcal disease** refers to any illness caused by pneumococcal bacteria.

- These bacteria can cause many types of illnesses, including pneumonia, which is an infection of the lungs. Pneumococcal bacteria are one of the most common causes of **pneumonia**.
- **Pneumonia** is an infection that causes lungs to fill with fluid. It can be caused by bacteria, fungus, or viruses. Bacterial and viral pneumonia can spread from person to person.
- Pneumonia makes it hard to breathe and get enough oxygen in the bloodstream.

Symptoms of pneumonia include:

- Coughing, sometimes with phlegm or pus
- Shortness of breath or wheezing
- Fever and/or chills
- Difficulty breathing
- Sharp pain in the chest when you breathe or cough
- Fatigue

Besides pneumonia, pneumococcal bacteria can also cause:

- Ear infections
- Sinus infections
- Meningitis (infection of the tissue covering the brain and spinal cord)
- Bacteremia (infection of the blood)
- Anyone can get pneumococcal disease, but children under 2 years old, people with certain medical conditions or other risk factors, and adults 65 years or older are at the highest risk.

There are three pneumococcal conjugate vaccines (**PCV13, PCV15, and PCV20**). The different vaccines are recommended for different people based on their age and medical status.



### PCV13

- **Infants and young children** usually need 4 doses of PCV13, at ages 2, 4, 6, and 12–15 months.
- **Older children (through age 59 months)** may be vaccinated with PCV13 if they did not receive the recommended doses.
- **Children and adolescents 6–18 years of age** with certain medical conditions should receive a single dose of PCV13 if they did not already receive PCV13.



### PCV15 or PCV20

- **Adults 19 through 64 years old** with certain medical conditions or other risk factors who have not already received a pneumococcal conjugate vaccine should receive either:
  - a single dose of PCV15 followed by a dose of pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV23), or
  - a single dose of PCV20.
- **Adults 65 years or older** who have not already received a pneumococcal conjugate vaccine should receive either:
  - a single dose of PCV15 followed by a dose of PPSV23, or
  - a single dose of PCV20.



Data Sourced from CDC, PA-AAP Report on 2021 SILR Data



PCV vaccine may be given at the same time as other vaccines. Your health care provider can give you more information.



# WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER VACCINATION

It's normal to experience immune response after vaccination, this is how you know the vaccine is doing its job. These side effects are usually mild and disappear on their own in a few days. Some normal immune responses for PCV vaccine include:

- Soreness, redness, or swelling at injection sight** (Icon: hand holding arm)
- Tiredness** (Icon: head with Z's)
- Headache** (Icon: head with lightning bolts)
- Fever or chills** (Icon: person with thermometer)
- Loss of appetite** (Icon: person sitting at table)

## Tell your vaccination provider if the person getting the vaccine:

- Has had an **allergic reaction after a previous dose of any type of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV13, PCV15, PCV20, or an earlier pneumococcal conjugate vaccine known as PCV7), or to any vaccine containing diphtheria toxoid** (for example, DTaP), or **has any severe, life-threatening allergies**
- In some cases, your health care provider may decide to postpone pneumococcal conjugate vaccination until a future visit.
- People with minor illnesses, such as a cold, may be vaccinated. People who are moderately or severely ill should usually wait until they recover.

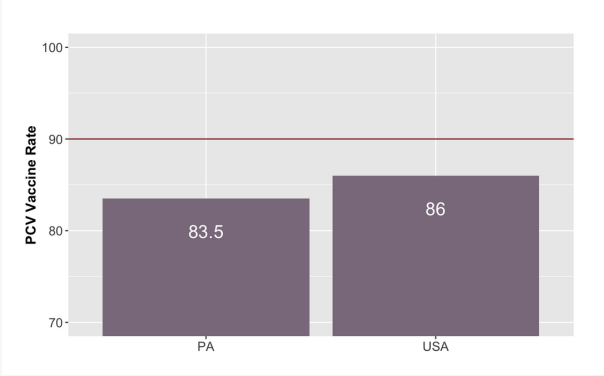
Young children may be at increased risk for seizures caused by fever after PCV13 if it is administered at the same time as inactivated influenza vaccine. Ask your health care provider for more information. People sometimes faint after medical procedures, including vaccination. Tell your provider if you feel dizzy or have vision changes or ringing in the ears. As with any medicine, there is a very remote chance of a vaccine causing a severe allergic reaction, other serious injury, or death.

# PCV Vaccination Rates

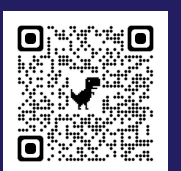
The Healthy People 2020 goal is **90%** coverage for the PCV vaccine.

\*Pennsylvania and national data are estimates measured by the National Immunization Survey-Child completed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Percentage of Children 35 months old who had received 4 doses of PCV vaccine in 2018 in PA and USA\*



Scan the QR code to connect with the Pennsylvania Immunization Coalition or a local coalition near you!



For more vaccine information go to: [immunizepa.org](https://immunizepa.org)