

# Pneumonia

**Pneumonia**, is a bacterial infection that can spread person-to-person through close contact. It can lead to severe health problems including blood infections and meningitis. Children under the age of 2, adults over the age of 65, and cigarette smokers are at highest risk for obtaining a serious disease from infection.



---

## Who should get vaccinated?

There are more than 90 types of pneumococcal bacteria. The pneumococcal conjugate vaccine, also called PCV13 or Prevnar 13, protects against the 13 most severe strains.

Children should receive 4 doses of PCV13 or Prevnar 13 at the following ages:

- 2 months
- 4 months
- 6 months
- 12-15 months

The vaccine is also recommended for some older children or adults. Consult your doctor for more details.

People who should **not** receive pneumococcal conjugate vaccination include:

- Anyone who has a life-threatening allergic reaction to a dose of the vaccine
- Anyone who has a severe allergy to any component of PCV13
- Anyone who is sick at the time a vaccination is scheduled should wait to recover

For more information on Pneumococcal conjugate vaccination call your local or state health department's immunization program or the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) by calling 1-800-232-4636 or by visiting [www.cdc.gov/vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines).