



Pneumococcal vaccination

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Streptococcus pneumoniae is a common bacterium that causes pneumonia. It lurks in the human nasal cavity. When you have an influenza or weak immune system, *Streptococcus pneumoniae* can invade the body from the respiratory tract or blood. Mild symptoms include otitis media, sinusitis, etc. Serious symptoms may lead to life-threatening problems, e.g., pneumonia, sepsis, meningitis, osteomyelitis, pericarditis, hemolytic uraemia, peritonitis, etc. Therefore, the pneumococcal vaccine can prevent the occurrence of infection effectively.

Vaccine Types

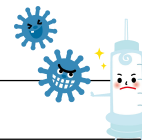


The pneumococcal vaccine is an inactivated vaccine. Available pneumococcal vaccines include the 13-valent conjugate vaccine (Prevenar 13), 23-valent polysaccharide vaccine (Pneumovax 23, PPV23) and 15-valent conjugate vaccine (Vaxneuvance 15), which can be administered at different sites concomitantly with influenza vaccine. Taiwan CDC recommends Prevenar 13 (PCV13) for the first vaccination.

Possible Side Effects

Common side effects: Pain, redness, or swelling where the shot was given, which usually recover within 2 days. About 0.8%-1% of the population may experience serious side effects. If you have persistent fever or severe allergic reactions such as trouble breathing, wheezing, dizziness, rapid heartbeat, seek medical attention as soon as possible.

Recommended Dose and Route



Groups	Dose and route
Over 50 years old with chronic disease	Self-paid for one dose of PCV13. Apply PPV23 after one year preferably.
Over 50 years old who are immunocompromised or cancer patients, combined with chronic disease	Self-paid for one dose of PCV13. Apply PPV23 after two months.
Over 65 years old healthy elders	Self-paid for one dose of PCV13. Apply PPV23 after one year preferably.

資料來源：黃立民、林志學、馮嘉毅醫師
製表：蔡怡真 ■ 聯合報



*This leaflet cannot provide complete drug information.
Please consult doctors or pharmacist if you have any questions.
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