2010 Pneumococcal Polysaccharide and Conjugate Vaccines

The Clinical Prevention Initiative (CPI) of the New Mexico Medical Society (NMMS) and the New Mexico Department of Health (NM-DOH) are urging all medical practices and health professionals to offer immunization against pneumococcal disease to children and adults. Pneumococcal infection accounts for more deaths than any other vaccine-preventable bacterial disease. The CPI offers the following information and recommendations:

Who Should Receive a First Dose of 23-Valent Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine (PPV-23)?
* All persons aged 65 and older.
* Persons ages two and older with chronic illnesses, including alcoholism, diabetes, CSF leaks, sickle cell disease, and cardiovascular, liver, and pulmonary conditions.
* Persons aged 19 through 64 years who smoke cigarettes.
* Persons aged 19 through 64 years who have asthma.
* Persons aged 2 and older who are immunocompromised because of HIV (preferably at or soon after diagnosis), leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin’s Disease, multiple myeloma, generalized malignancy, chronic renal failure/nephrotic syndrome, chronic immunosuppressive therapy (including corticosteroids), and splenectomy (preferably two weeks or more prior to surgery).
* Persons ages two and older with a cochlear implant (two weeks before surgery or as soon after surgery as possible).
* Consider persons living in a special environment putting them at risk for pneumococcal disease (e.g., residents of nursing homes or other long-term care facilities).
* Consider persons aged 2 to 64 years who are of American Indian or Alaska Native descent and live in areas in which the risk of invasive pneumococcal disease is increased.

Who Should Receive a Second Dose of 23-Valent Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine?
* Persons aged 65 years and older – if 5 or more years after first dose and age at first dose was less than 65 years.
* Persons aged 2 years and older who are immunocompromised, have sickle cell disease, or have functional or anatomic asplenia. The second dose should be administered 5 or more years after the first dose.

Who Should Receive 13-Valent Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV-13)?
* PCV-13 is indicated for all children younger than 59 months of age. PCV-13 replaced PCV-7 in 2010; PCV-7 should no longer be used; any remaining stocks should be returned to the VFC program or the manufacturer.
* The routine series consists of doses given at 2, 4, 6, and 12-15 months of age.
  * Children who have received a complete series of PCV-7 and are under 60 months of age should receive a single additional dose of PCV-13. All children who have received an incomplete series of PCV-7 should complete the series with PCV-13.
* The recommended schedule for older children, including catch-up schedule is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PCV-13 for Older Children and Catch-Up Schedule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age at FIRST Dose</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>7-11 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>12-23 months</td>
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<td>24-59 months</td>
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<td>immunocompetent</td>
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<td>24-59 months</td>
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<td>immunocompromised who</td>
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<td>have received 3 doses</td>
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<td>&lt; 3 doses</td>
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Giving Pneumococcal and Influenza Vaccination Together
* No increase in side effects.
* No decrease in antibody response.
* Give injections in separate arms/sites.

Side Effects
* Local injection-site soreness, erythema, induration common.
* Low-grade fever and myalgia infrequent (<1%).
* Other side effects uncommon.
Contraindications and Precautions

* A severe allergic reaction to a prior dose or vaccine component is a contraindication to further doses.
* If possible, delay PPV-23 vaccination of patients undergoing chemotherapy. If you are unable to delay, revaccinate three months after completion of the therapy.
* Women who are candidates for PPV-23 vaccine and are considering pregnancy should be vaccinated before pregnancy, if possible.

How to Store and Administer the Vaccine

* Refrigerate immediately upon arrival – do not use if frozen.
* Refrigerate opened or unopened at 2-8°C (35-46°F).
* Do not use after expiration date.
* Shake vial vigorously before each dose.
* PPV-23 – Adults: Either IM deltoid (22-25 gauge, 1-1/2 inch needle) or SC (23-25 gauge, 5/8 inch needle) in posterior lateral fat of upper arm.
* PPV-23 – Youths: IM deltoid with 22-25 gauge needle. Choose needle length appropriate to child’s age and body mass (2-10 years, 1-1/4 inch: 11 years and older, 1-1/2 inch). Or SC (23-25 gauge, 5/8 inch length) in posterior lateral fat of upper arm.
* PCV-7: IM only, all ages, with 22-25 gauge needle. Choose needle length appropriate to child’s age and body mass (7-11 months, 7/8 – 1 inch: 12 months-5 years, 7/8 – 1 1/4 inch length).

To Obtain Vaccine

* Both PCV-13 and PPV-23 vaccines are available free of charge for youth less than age 19 through the NM Department of Health Vaccines for Children Program (VFC) – contact 888.231.2367.
* For PPV-23, Merck Select Prices, speak with Amanda Hensley at 505.270.1667 and indicate that you are a participant in the New Mexico Clinical Prevention Initiative.
* General Injectables and Vaccines, Inc. (GIV) – contact 800.521.7468. Indicate that you are a participant in the New Mexico Clinical Prevention Initiative. Have your DEA number available. You will be able to open an account and place your order.

Suggestions for Smooth Third Party Reimbursement

* All major payers in New Mexico reimburse pneumococcal vaccination.
* **Coding adult PPV-23:**
  → CPT-4 code 90732 (Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine, 23 Valent, Adult Dosage) with ICD-9 diagnosis V03.82 (Need for Pneumococcal Vaccination) on all claims.
  → HCPC code G0009 (Administration of Pneumococcal Vaccine) on all Medicare and Medicare senior plan claims – this should be paid separately from any office visit charge.
  → CPT-4 codes 90471 (Immunization Administration - One Vaccine) or 90472 (Immunization Administration – Each Additional Vaccine) with all other payers. We suggest you place CPT-4 modifier -25 after your evaluation and management code (99201-99215) to indicate it was unrelated to administration of pneumococcal vaccine.
* **Coding child/youth PPV-23:**
  → No source can be billed for the vaccine acquired from VFC. Claims should show the vaccine code (90732) with a zero ($0.00) charge, and the administration fee code (90465 or 90466) for children under eight with counseling, 90471 or 90472 for children eight and older or without counseling.
  → The exception is the fee-for-service exempt Medicaid (not SALUD!) program. For exempt Medicaid patients, use only the CPT code for the vaccine (90732) and enter the usual charge for vaccine administration for it. Use diagnosis code V03.82 for PPV-23 vaccine and administration.
* **Coding PCV-13:**
  → No source can be billed for the vaccine acquired from VFC. Claims should show the vaccine code (90670; the code for PCV-7 is now obsolete) with a zero ($0.00) charge, and the administration fee code (90465 or 90466) for children under eight with counseling, 90471 or 90472 for children eight and older without counseling.
  → The exception is the fee-for-service exempt Medicaid (not SALUD!) program. For exempt Medicaid patients, use only the CPT code for the vaccine (90670) and enter the usual charge for vaccine administration for it. Use diagnosis code V03.82 for PCV-13 vaccine and administration.

For Additional Information

Clinical Prevention Initiative: Joan Ford, 505.828.0237 / 800.748.1596 / jford@nmms.org
NM Department of Health at http://www.health.state.nm.us/immunize/ 888.231.2367
(Pink Book section on Pneumococcal disease)