
SUBJECT: Pevnar 20 Storage Requirements
Date: August 12, 2024
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To: Physicians, Hospitals, Long-term Care Homes

During storage of Pfizer's Pevnar 20 (Pneu-C-20), a white deposit and clear supernatant may be observed in the pre-filled syringe containing the suspension. Syringes should be stored horizontally (laying flat on shelf) to minimize the re-dispersion time.

Pneumococcal vaccines are recommended for routine immunization of infants, children and adults, as well as those with increased risk of invasive pneumococcal disease (IPD)¹. The Ministry of Health (MOH) has recently transitioned to two new pneumococcal vaccines to provide broader protections against IPD².

Pneu-C-20 (Pevnar 20) is the vaccine now used in the high-risk programs and routine adult program for ages 65+ years.

Vaccine Storage Requirements for Pevnar 20

To ensure safe administration of vaccine, syringes should be stored horizontally (laying flat on shelf) to minimize the re-dispersion time³. Do not use the vaccine if it cannot be re-suspended. Do not use if large particulate matter or discoloration is found. For more information about Pevnar 20 storage, handling and administration, please refer to the [product monograph](#).

References:

1. Government of Canada. Canadian Immunization Guide: Pneumococcal vaccines: Canadian Immunization Guide, accessed August 9, 2024. Available at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/healthy-living/canadian-immunization-guide-part-4-active-vaccines/page-16-pneumococcal-vaccine.html>
2. Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health. Physicians Advisory: New Pneumococcal Vaccines, July 16, 2024. Available at: https://wdgpublichealth.ca/sites/default/files/physicians_advisory_-_pneumococcal_vaccine_program_transition_2024-07-16.pdf
3. Pfizer Canada ULC. PREVNAR 20 (Pneumococcal 20-valent Conjugate Vaccine [Diphtheria CRM₁₉₇ Protein]) Product Monograph, accessed August 9, 2024. Available at: https://pdf.hres.ca/dpd_pm/00065729.PDF

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