

**SUBJECT:** New Pneumococcal Vaccines  
**Date:** July 16, 2024  
**Pages:** 2  
**To:** Primary Care Providers, Pediatricians  
**From:** Dr. Nicola Mercer, Medical Officer of Health

**The Ministry of Health is transitioning to two new pneumococcal vaccines to provide broader protection against invasive pneumococcal disease (IPD). The following vaccines will now be used in the publicly funded program:**

- **Pneumococcal 15-valent conjugate (Pneu-C-15), Vaxneuvance**
- **Pneumococcal 20-valent conjugate (Pneu-C-20), Prevnar 20**

**Pneu-C-13 (Prevnar 13) and Pneu-P-23 (Pneumovax) are now discontinued. Please return any unused product.**

Anyone can get pneumococcal disease, but children under 2 years of age, individuals with certain medical conditions or high-risk factors and adults over 65 years of age are at increased risk of infection (See Table 1 for updated eligibility criteria).

## Transition to New Pneumococcal Products

Pneu-C-13 (Prevnar 13) and Pneu-P-23 (Pneumovax) will be replaced by Pneu-C-15 (Vaxneuvance) and Pneu-C-20 (Prevnar 20) in Ontario's publicly funded vaccine schedule to offer broader protection against up to 20 different types of bacteria that cause pneumococcal disease.

- Pneu-C-15 vaccine is for use in the routine pediatric pneumococcal vaccine program
- Pneu-C-20 vaccine is for use in the high-risk programs and the routine adult program for ages 65+ years.

**Table 1: Eligibility criteria for Pneu-C vaccines in Ontario effective July 2024**

Eligibility	Vaccine	# of doses	Schedule
6 weeks to 4 years of age who are <i>not</i> at increased risk for IPD	Pneu-C-15	Up to 3 doses	2, 4 and 12 months of age
6 weeks to 4 years of age who are at increased risk for IPD	Pneu-C-20	Up to 4 doses	2, 4, 6 and 12 months of age
5 to 64 years of age with certain medical and non-medical conditions that increase their risk for IPD	Pneu-C-20	1 lifetime dose	
65 years of age and older	Pneu-C-20	1 lifetime dose	

**Individuals Previously Vaccinated with Pneumococcal Immunizations**

The new vaccines are only for individuals who have not completed or received all eligible publicly funded pneumococcal vaccines.

There is no indication to revaccinate with Pneu-C-15 or Pneu-C-20 those that have already received all eligible publicly funded pneumococcal vaccines (Pneu-P-23 and/or Pneu-C-13).

**Process for Ordering**

To order vaccine for your office please use the [WDG Public Health Vaccine Portal](#) OR fax a completed [vaccine order form](#) to **519-823-4903**.

**Process for Returning**

Return any unused pneumococcal vaccines to WDGPH using the [Vaccine Return Form](#). Cold Chain is not required.

**For more information, please contact:**

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