Pneumococcal Immunization Recommendations for LTCHs and Retirement Homes

At age 65, everyone should receive a dose of Pneu-P-23 (this is regardless of whether they have received any previous doses of either Pneumococcal vaccines). This dose needs to be at least 8 weeks after any previous dose of Pneu-C-13 and at least 5 years after any previous dose of Pneu-P-23.

All clients over the age of 50 are recommended to receive the Pneu-C-13 vaccine, but only some clients are eligible for it publicly funded (free). See the box below for eligibility.


Has the resident received Pneumococcal vaccine before?

YES
- Pneu-P-23
  - How long ago?
    - Less than 1 year ago: Wait 1 year then give Pneu-C-13
    - More than 1 year ago: Give Pneu-C-13
  - If 65+ and more than 5 years since Pneu-P-23, give as per above

YES
- Pneu-C-13
  - Wait ≥ 8 weeks

NO
- Recommend Pneu-C-13 (need to buy unless meet eligibility below)
  - Wait ≥ 8 weeks
  - Give Pneu-P-23

Eligibility for Publicly Funded Pneu-C-13
- Stem Cell transplants
- HIV infection
- Immunosuppressive conditions, specifically
  - Asplenia
  - Sickle cell disease
- Congenital immunodeficiencies involving any part of the immune system
- Immunosuppressive therapy including use of long term corticosteroids, chemotherapy, radiation therapy, post organ transplant, biologic and non-biologic immunosuppressive therapies for rheumatologic and other inflammatory diseases
- Malignant neoplasms including leukemia and lymphoma
- Solid organ or islet cell transplant

As per the Publicly Funded Schedule, the following high risk people should receive a one-time booster dose of Pneu-P-23 at least 5 years after their initial dose:
- Asplenia
- Sickle cell disease
- Chronic liver disease, including hepatic cirrhosis, chronic kidney failure or nephrotic syndrome
- Immunosuppression related to disease or therapy
- Chronic heart, lung (including asthma), liver or renal disease
- Cigarette smoking
- Cerebrospinal fluid leak