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Recommendations for use of Pneumococcal Vaccine



Zulekha Hospital
Your Health Matters

Pneumococcal vaccine is given to childrens from 6 weeks to 5 years to help protect against diseases such as meningitis [Inflammation around the brain], sepsis or bacteraemia[bacteria in the blood stream], pneumonia[lung infection and ear infections caused by 13 types of the bacteria streptococcus pneumoniae].The vaccine works by helping the body to make its own antibodies, which protect your child against these diseases.

1. All immune-competent patients aged >65 yr should be immunized. Persons age <64 yr should be immunized if they have chronic illnesses, such as

- Cardiovascular disease (congestive heart failure)
- Chronic pulmonary disease (COPD, but not asthma)
- Diabetes mellitus
- Alcoholism
- Chronic liver disease (cirrhosis)
- Cerebrospinal fluid leaks, and
- Functional or anatomic asplenia
- If they are living in special environments or social settings (Alaskan natives, American Indian populations, those in long-term care facilities)

2. Vaccination should be considered in

- Persons with HIV infection
- Leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease, multiple myeloma, generalized malignancy
- Chronic renal failure, or Nephrotic syndrome
- Persons receiving immunosuppressive therapy (including long-term steroids).
- If immunosuppressive therapy is being contemplated, vaccination should be given at least 2 week before, if possible.

3. Revaccination

- A person whose age < 65 yr who initially received the vaccine >5 yr earlier and was < age 65 yr of age on first vaccination.
- If the initial vaccination was given at age 65 yr or older, a repeat is not indicated.
- Anatomic or functional Asplenia
- Immunocompromised patient revaccination after 5 yr is also indicated.

4. Contraindications prior to vaccination

• Vaccination should not be given

1. If the person is allergic (hypersensitive) to the active subsatances, to any other ingredients or to any other vaccine that contains diphtheria toxoid.
2. If the person has severe infection from high temperature (over 38°C). If this applies, then the vaccination will be postponed until the person feels better. A minor infection such as cold should not be a problem. Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse first.

Special Care (inform doctor, pharmacist or nurse before vaccination)

1. If the person have any present or past medical problems after any dose of pneumococcal vaccination, such as allergic reaction or problem with breathing.
2. If the person have any bleeding problems or bruises easily.
3. If the person has a weakened immune system (such as due to HIV infection), she/he may not get the full benefit from pneumococcal vaccination.
4. The person should inform the doctor, pharmacist or nurse if he/she is taken, has recently taken any other medicines, including medicines obtained without prescription, or has recently received any other vaccine.

(To be retained in IP file)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY PATIENT

I declare that I have been explained the importance of pneumococcal vaccination and I have had the opportunity to ask questions which have been answered satisfactorily.

Indication for Vaccination:

Patients Name & Signature:..... Date:.....

Interpreters Name & Signature:..... Date:.....
(If applicable)

Vaccine administered date:.....

Doctors signature:.....