

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Update: Pneumococcal Vaccine Program

FROM:

Mary Choi, MD MPH CCFP FRCPC
Associate Medical Officer of Health

Key Messages:

- Ontario's publicly funded pneumococcal vaccine program will transition to Pneu-C-15 (Vaxneuvance) and Pneu-C-20 (Pevnar 20).
- Return your existing stock of Pneu-C-13 (Pevnar 13) and Pneu-P-23 (Pneumovax 23) to Peel Public Health (PPH) once you have received your supply of Pneu-C-15 (Vaxneuvance) and Pneu-C-20 (Pevnar 20).
- Health care providers must report any adverse events following immunization (AEFI) by faxing completed forms to 905-565-0426.

Update: Pneumococcal Vaccine Program

Ontario's publicly funded pneumococcal vaccine program will transition to the following new pneumococcal vaccines:

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

These vaccines will provide broader protection against Invasive Pneumococcal Disease (IPD) compared to Pneu-C-13 (Pevnar 13) and longer-term protection than Pneu-P-23 (Pneumovax 23).

Eligibility has not changed, and re-vaccination is not part of the product transition. The transition will focus on those who have not previously received or completed a series of publicly funded pneumococcal vaccine(s) of Pneu-P-23 and/or Pneu-C-13.

The vaccines can be ordered through our online [order form](#).

The following tables present a general overview of updates. Please review all resources listed on the next page for additional information related to eligibility, schedules, spacing intervals, product interchangeability, and more.

Routine Schedule

Age Group	Schedule	Previous Product	New Product
6 weeks to 4 years of age	2, 4 and 12 months of age (up to 3 doses)	Pneu-C-13	Pneu-C-15
≥ 65 years of age	1 lifetime dose <i>No boosters</i>	Pneu-P-23	Pneu-C-20

High Risk Schedule Due to Conditions with Increased Risk IPD*

Age Group	Schedule	Previous Product	New Product
Children 6 weeks to 4 years of age (Except HSCT**)	2, 4, 6 and 12 months of age (up to 4 doses) <i>No boosters</i>	Pneu-C-13 and Pneu-P-23	Pneu-C-20
5 years and over (Except HSCT**)	1 dose <i>No boosters</i>	Pneu-P-23	Pneu-C-20
**Note: Post-Hematopoietic stem-cell transplant (HSCT) recipients may receive up to 4 doses of Pneu-C-20. No boosters.			

*The list of high-risk criteria for IPD can be found on page 3 of the [Qs & As for Health Care Providers: Pneumococcal vaccine transition](#). Updates to the publicly funded schedule are currently underway and anticipated to be released in early winter 2024.

Resources

[Q & A's for Health Care Providers: Pneumococcal vaccine transition](#)

[HCP Fact Sheet: Pneumococcal conjugate vaccines for children aged 6 weeks to 4 years](#)

[HCP Fact Sheet: Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine for individuals aged 65 years and older](#)

[HCP Fact Sheet: Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine for individuals aged 5 to 64 years at high risk for invasive pneumococcal disease](#)

Return of remaining doses of Prevnar 13 and Pneumovax 23

Return your existing stock of Pneu-C-13 (Prevnar 13) and Pneu-P-23 (Pneumovax 23) to PPH once you have received your supply of (Pneu-C-15) Vaxneuvance and Pneu-C-20 (Prevnar 20).

Vaccines that are returned as excess inventory do not need to be returned in cold chain. Please complete the [Vaccine Wastage Report](#) when returning vaccines.

Reminder: Reporting adverse event(s) following immunization (AEFI)

Health care providers are required under the *Health Protection and Promotion Act* to report any event which may be related to receipt of a vaccine. Events of particular importance are those which require medical consultation, unusual or unexpected events. Submitting a report does not mean that the vaccine caused the event.

The AEFI reporting form is available [online](#). Fax AEFI forms to Peel Public Health at **905-565-0426**.