



NEONATAL MEDICATION GUIDELINE

PNEUMOCOCCAL CONJUGATE VACCINE, 13-VALENT (Prevenar®)

Scope (Staff): Nursing, Medical and Pharmacy Staff

Scope (Area): KEMH NICU, PCH NICU, NETS WA

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Description

Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine, 13-valent

Presentation

Suspension in pre-filled Syringe: 0.5mL

Storage

Refrigerate – do not freeze

Indication

Prevention of invasive diseases caused by *Streptococcus pneumoniae* in infants at:

- 6 weeks of age*, and;
- 4 months of age, and;
- 12 months of age.

*6-week vaccinations can be delayed to 8 weeks of age if medically unwell.

NOTE: Parent/Guardian consent is to be obtained prior to administration of all vaccinations.

Additional dose **at 6 months** of age is recommended for:

- preterm infants born less than 28 weeks gestation;
- for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander infants;
- patients with Medical Risk Conditions – refer to [Australian Immunisation Handbook](#)

Dose

Intramuscular:

0.5mL

Administration

Intramuscular Injection ONLY

Shake syringe vigorously immediately prior to use to obtain a homogenous, white suspension.

Do not use if not uniformly suspended or discoloured.

Inject 0.5 mL of suspension by intramuscular injection (IMI) to the anterolateral aspect of the thigh (slowly to reduce pain).

Pneumococcal Vaccine can be given at the same time as combined DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib.

Pneumococcal Vaccine should be administered in the opposite leg to DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib.

Compatible Fluids

Do not combine with any fluids or other vaccinations

Side Effects

Common: transient injection site reactions (pain, redness, itching, swelling or burning, small hard lump that may persist for some weeks), transient fever.

Serious: allergic reaction including anaphylaxis.

Monitoring

Infants receiving pneumococcal immunisation are to have a full set of observations taken prior to immunisations.

Continuous cardiac monitoring for 48 hours following immunisation.

If a transient fever occurs, Paracetamol may need to be administered.

Comments

Do not give during febrile illness or acute infection.

Parent/Guardian consent is to be obtained prior to administration of all vaccinations

Interactions

Co-administration of 13vPCV with Menactra (quadrivalent MenACWY vaccine) should be avoided. This is because Menactra may interfere with the immune response against some pneumococcal serotypes. Two other brands of MenACWY vaccine, Menveo or Nimenrix, are available and can be co-administered with 13vPCV without such interference. If 13vPCV and Menactra are inadvertently co-administered, a repeat dose of either vaccine is not needed.

Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

[WA Immunisation Schedule](#)

[Australian Immunisation Handbook – Pneumococcal disease](#)

[CAHS Neonatology - Immunisations Guideline](#)









References

Australian Medicines Handbook. Pneumococcal vaccines. In: Australian Medicines Handbook [Internet]. Adelaide (South Australia): Australian Medicines Handbook; 2022 [cited 2022 Nov 10]. Available from: <https://amhonline.amh.net.au/>

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Neomed Formularies. Pneumococcal Vaccine In: The Royal Hospital for Women [Internet]. [South Eastern Sydney, New South Wales;2021 [cited 2022 Nov 11]. Available from: <https://www.seslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/royal-hospital-for-women/neomed-formularies>

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The health impact upon Aboriginal people has been considered, and where relevant incorporated and appropriately addressed in the development of this document (insert ISD Number). (Please refer to the Aboriginal Health Impact Statement and Declaration for Department of Health and Health Service Provider Guidelines – please delete once you have completed this).

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