

Standing Order for Administering Pneumococcal Vaccine (Adult)

Purpose: To reduce morbidity and mortality from pneumococcal disease by vaccinating all individuals who meet the criteria established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) product labeling, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

Policy: Under this standing order, eligible health care professionals working within their scope of practice may vaccinate patients who meet the criteria below.

Procedure:

1. Identify persons ≥ 19 years of age in need of vaccination against pneumococcus infection based on the [following criteria](#):
 - Individuals ≥ 65 years of age
 - Individuals 19–64 years of age with no or unknown PCV receipt and certain risk factors:
 - Alcoholism or cigarette smoking
 - Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) leak
 - Chronic heart disease (e.g., heart failure and cardiomyopathies)
 - Chronic liver disease (e.g., cirrhosis)
 - Chronic lung disease (e.g., COPD, emphysema, and asthma)
 - Cochlear implant
 - Diabetes mellitus
 - Immunocompromising conditions (e.g., chronic renal failure; congenital or acquired asplenia; congenital or acquired immunodeficiencies [e.g., HIV, B or T-lymphocyte deficiency, complement deficiencies, and phagocytic disorders, excluding chronic granulomatous disease]; generalized malignancy; Hodgkin disease; iatrogenic immunosuppression [e.g., treatment with immunosuppressive drugs, including long-term systemic corticosteroids and radiation therapy]; leukemia; lymphoma; multiple myeloma; nephrotic syndrome; sickle cell disease or other hemoglobinopathies; and solid organ transplant)
2. Using [DD Form 3111](#), screen all patients for contraindications and precautions to pneumococcal vaccine:

Contraindications:

- History of a serious reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose of pneumococcal vaccine, to any vaccine containing diphtheria toxoid, or to a vaccine component (including yeast)
- For information on vaccine components, refer to the package insert for [PCV15](#), [PCV 20](#), [PPSV23](#), or [The CDC Pink Book Appendix B](#).

Precautions:

- Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever
- Syncope (fainting) can occur in association with administration of injectable vaccines. Have procedures in place to avoid a falling injury (e.g., 15-minute observation after administration) and to restore cerebral perfusion.
- For questions or concerns, consider consulting the DHA Immunization Healthcare Support Center at (877) 438-8222, Option 1 or DSN 312-761-4245.

3. Provide all patients (or their parent/legal representative) with a copy of the most current federal [Vaccine Information Statement \(VIS\)](#). You must document, in the patient’s medical record, the publication date of the VIS and the date it was given to the patient (parent/legal representative). Provide non-English speaking patients with a copy of the VIS in their native language, if available and preferred.

4. Provide vaccine as follows:

- Administer 0.5 mL of the appropriate pneumococcal vaccine according to Tables 1 - 4.
- PCV15 and PCV20 are given intramuscularly (IM); PPSV23 may be given IM or subcutaneously (SC).
- Individuals with anatomic or functional asplenia and/or HIV: PCV vaccines and Menactra (MenACYW-D) should not be given concomitantly. Administer Menactra ≥ 4 weeks after completion of all PCV doses.

TABLE 1. IM Needle Length and Injection Site Guide		
Use a 22 – 25-gauge needle. Choose needle gauge and length appropriate to the patient’s age		
Patient Age	Needle Length	Injection Site
Children/Adolescents (11-18 years)	5/8*-1 inch (16-25 mm)	Deltoid muscle of arm†
	1-1.5 inches (25-38 mm)	Anterolateral thigh
Adults (≥ 19 years)		
Men and women (130 lbs)	5/8* - 1 inch (16-25 mm)	Deltoid muscle of arm
Men and women (130-152 lbs)	1 inch (25 mm)	
Men (152-260 lbs)	1-1.5 inches (25-38 mm)	
Women (152-200 lbs)		
Men (260 lbs)	1.5 inches (38 mm)	
Women (200 lbs)		
Men and women, any weight	1 inch* - 1.5 inches (38 mm)	Anterolateral thigh

Adapted from General Best Practice Guidelines for Immunization: Vaccine Administration. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/general-recs/administration.html>

* If skin is stretched tightly and subcutaneous tissues are not bunched.

† Preferred site.

TABLE 2. SC Needle Length and Injection Site Guide	
Use a 5/8 inch 23 – 25-gauge needle	
Patient Age	Injection Site
Adults ≥ 18 years	Fatty tissue over triceps*
	Fatty tissue over anterolateral thigh

Adapted from General Best Practice Guidelines for Immunization: Vaccine Administration. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/general-recs/administration.html>

* Preferred site.

TABLE 3. Pneumococcal Vaccine Schedule (Adult) Age ≥ 65 years		Do not give pneumococcal conjugate (PCV) and pneumococcal polysaccharide (PPSV) vaccine at the same visit.	
Vaccine received previously (any age)	Any or no underlying condition	No immunocompromising condition, CSF leak, or cochlear implant*	Immunocompromising condition, CSF leak, or cochlear implant*
	Option A: PCV20 available	Option B: PCV15 and PPSV23 available	Option B: PCV15 and PPSV23 available
None/unknown or PCV7 only	PCV20	PCV 15 → ≥ 1 year → PPSV 23	PCV 15 → ≥ 8 wks → PPSV 23
PPSV23 only	≥ 1 year → PCV20	≥ 1 year → PCV15	
PCV13 only	≥ 1 year → PCV20	≥ 1 year → PPSV23	≥ 8wks → PPSV23
Both PCV13 and PPSV23 (in any order) but no dose of PPSV23 at age ≥ 65 years	≥ 5 years since last PCV13 or PPSV23 → PCV 20	≥ 1 year since PCV13 & PPSV 23 ≥ 5 years since PPSV23	≥ 8 wks since PCV13 & PPSV 23 ≥ 5 years since PPSV23
Both PCV13 and PPSV23 (in any order) and the PPSV23 was at age ≥ 65 years	Using shared clinical decision making: ≥ 5 years since last PCV13 or PPSV23 → PCV20	Not Recommended	

* See Section 1, page 1.

TABLE 4. Pneumococcal Vaccine Schedule (Adult) Age 19 – 64 years with risk factors		Do not give pneumococcal conjugate (PCV) and pneumococcal polysaccharide (PPSV) vaccine at the same visit.	
Vaccine received previously (any age)	Option A: PCV20 available	Option B: PCV15 and PPSV23 available	
	Chronic medical condition*		
None/unknown or PCV7 only	PCV20	PCV 15 → ≥ 1 year → PPSV 23	
PPSV23 only	≥ 1 year since PPSV23 → PCV20	≥ 1 year since PPSV23 → PCV15	
PCV13 only	≥ 1 year since PCV13 → PCV20	≥ 1 year since PCV13 → PPSV23	
PCV13 and PPSV23	Not recommended: review recommendations again at 65 years of age		
CSF leak or cochlear implant			
None/unknown or PCV7 only	PCV20	PCV 15 → ≥ 8 wks → PPSV 23	
PPSV23 only	≥ 1 year since PPSV23 → PCV20	≥ 1 year since PPSV23 → PCV15	
PCV13 only	≥ 1 year since PCV13 → PCV20	≥ 8 wks since PCV13 → PPSV23	(Review recommendations again at 65 years of age)
PCV13 and 1 dose PPSV23	≥ 5 years since last dose → PCV20	Not recommended: review recommendations again at 65 years of age	

Immunocompromising condition*		
None/unknown or PCV7 only	PCV20	PCV 15 → ≥ 8 wks → PPSV 23
PPSV23 only	≥ 1 year since PPSV23 → PCV20	≥ 1 year since PPSV23 → PCV15
PCV13 only	≥ 1 year since PCV13 → PCV20	≥ 8 wks since PCV13 → PPSV23 → ≥ 5 years → PPSV23
PCV13 and 1 dose PPSV23 (in any order)	≥ 5 years since last dose → PCV20	≥ 8 wks since PCV13 → & → ≥ 5 years since PPSV23 → PPSV23 (Review recommendations again at 65 years of age)
PCV13 and 2 doses PPSV23 (in any order)	≥ 5 years since last dose → PCV20	Not recommended: review recommendations again at 65 years of age

* See Section 1, page 1.

5. Document all immunizations administered in the patient's electronic health record and the appropriate immunization tracking system. Include date, immunization given, dose, anatomical location of administration, lot number, manufacturer, Vaccine Information Sheet (VIS) date, and the identification of the person administering the vaccine. If vaccine was not given, record the reason for non-receipt.
6. Be prepared to manage a medical emergency related to the administration of vaccines by having a written emergency medical protocol available, as well as equipment and medications.
7. Adverse events occurring after administration of any vaccine should be reported to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) online at <https://vaers.hhs.gov>. Additional information about VAERS is also available by telephone (800-822-7967).
8. This standing order shall remain in effect for all patients of the _____ until rescinded and/or upon a change in the Medical Director, whichever is earlier.

Medical Director's Signature

Date