

## PROTOCOL OVERVIEW

This Clinical Protocol advises on indications and guidelines for Pneumococcal Conjugate pediatric vaccine.

## INDICATIONS

### A. Who should get PCV13, and when?

1. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend PCV13 as a series of 4 doses, one dose at each of these ages: 2 months, 4 months, 6 months, and 12 through 15 months.
2. Children who miss their shots at these ages should still get the vaccine, depending on the child's age per CDC: Catch up Immunization Schedule for Persons 4 months – 18 yrs.
3. Children who have begun their immunization series with the older PCV7 should complete the series with PCV13.
4. Healthy children between their 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> birthdays, who have not completed the PCV7 or PCV13 series before age 2, should get one dose.
5. Children between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> birthdays with medical conditions such as sickle cell disease, a damaged or absent spleen, cochlear implants, diabetes, chronic heart or lung disease, HIV/AIDS or other diseases or taking medications that affect the immune system (such as steroids or immunosuppressive agents) should get **one dose of PCV13** (if they received 3 doses of PCV7 or PCV13 before age 2), or **2 doses of PCV13** (if they received 2 or fewer doses of PCV 7 or PCV 13).
6. Healthy children who have not yet turned 5, and children with medical conditions, who have not yet turned 6, should get one additional dose of PCV13.
7. PCV7 may be given at the same time as other vaccines.

### B. Who should not get PCV13?

1. Children should not get PCV13 if they had a serious (life-threatening) allergic reaction to a previous dose of this vaccine, or to any vaccine containing diphtheria toxoid (i.e., DTap)
2. Children known to have a severe allergy to any component of PCV7 or PCV13 should not get PCV13.
3. Children with minor illnesses, such as a cold, may be vaccinated. Those moderately or severely ill should wait until they recover before receiving the vaccine.

### C. What are the risks of PCV13?

1. Any vaccine could potentially cause a severe allergic reaction. However, the risk of the vaccine causing serious harm, although present, is small. In studies, the reactions to PCV13 were generally mild and similar to those reported after PCV7.
2. About half the recipients reported drowsiness, temporary loss of appetite or had local redness or tenderness at the injection site.
3. About one in three developed some localized swelling at the injection site.
4. About one in three had a mild fever, and one in twenty a higher fever (over 102.0°F).

## CITATIONS

“Pneumococcal Vaccine Recommendations”, Dept. of Health and Human Services, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Vaccine Information Statement PCV13, 08/07/2020

“PCV13 (Pneumococcal Conjugate) Vaccine for Providers: Questions and Answers for Healthcare Professionals About PCV 13”, Center for Disease Control and Prevention

American Academy of Pediatrics, “Implementation Guidance – PCV13”, Updated 5/24/10