

# Pneumococcal Disease Is Serious...

## Make sure your child is protected!

**What is pneumococcal disease?**

Pneumococcal disease is caused by bacteria that can lead to serious infections in the lungs (pneumonia), blood, and brain (meningitis).

**How do you catch pneumococcal disease?**

You can catch pneumococcal bacteria from an infected person who coughs or sneezes around you.

**Is pneumococcal disease serious?**

Yes. Even with good medical care, pneumococcal disease can be deadly. The disease is hard to treat because some bacteria have become resistant to antibiotics. Pneumococcal bacteria can cause pneumonia, blood infections, and meningitis. Such infections can lead to deafness, brain damage, and even death.

Ask your child's healthcare provider if your child is up to date for all vaccines!

**Is my child at risk?**

Yes. Anyone can get pneumococcal disease. It is most dangerous in young children.

**How can I protect my child from pneumococcal disease?**

You can protect your child from pneumococcal disease with vaccination.



All children should get 4 doses of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV), starting at 2 months of age.

If your child misses a dose or gets behind schedule, make sure they get the next dose as soon as possible.



► For more information, visit [www.vaccineinformation.org](http://www.vaccineinformation.org)

For other vaccine handouts in this series, visit [www.immunize.org/vaccine-summaries](http://www.immunize.org/vaccine-summaries)

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