



PROTECT YOURSELF FROM PNEUMOCOCCAL DISEASE

WHAT IS IT?

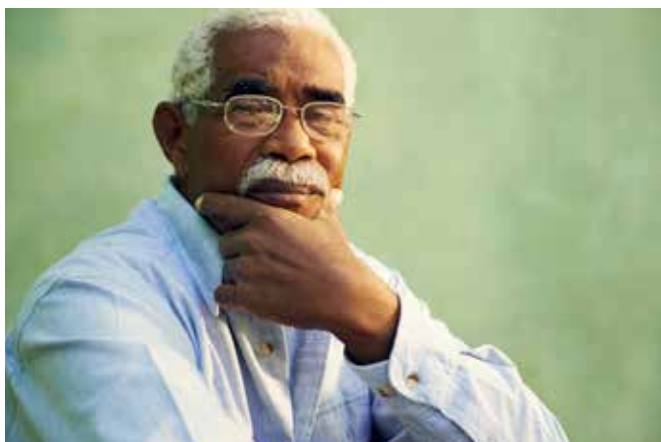
Pneumococcal disease is a bacterial disease that can cause three serious infections:

- meningitis (brain infection)
- bacteremia (bloodstream infection)
- pneumonia (lung infection)



HOW IS IT SPREAD?

The bacteria are spread from an infected person to another by close contact such as kissing, coughing and sneezing or sharing items such as toys, musical instruments and cigarettes.



WHO IS AT RISK?

Children:

- under the age of 2
- with an immunocompromising condition or chronic illness such as:
 - sickle cell disease
 - pulmonary disease
 - kidney disease
 - HIV
 - diabetes
 - heart disease
- with cochlear implants
- on immunosuppressive therapy
- 2 to 17 years of age with asthma

Adults:

- with a chronic illness such as:
 - heart disease • diabetes • HIV • asthma
- who have smoking-related diseases such as COPD
- without a working spleen
- with weakened immune systems
- who are on immunosuppressive therapy
- 65 years of age and older
- who are homeless
- who use illicit drugs
- with alcoholism
- who are smokers
- living in long-term care facilities

PNEUMOCOCCAL VACCINE IS SAFE AND EFFECTIVE

Talk to your family physician, pediatrician, nurse, pharmacist or public health office about being immunized.

For more information, visit immunize.ca



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SUCCESS