

Licensure and Recommendations for the use of Prevnar 13[®]

A new pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (**PCV13**) was licensed by the FDA on February 24, 2010 and is approved for use in children 6 weeks through 71 months of age (prior to the 6th birthday). It is indicated for the prevention of invasive disease caused by 13 strains of *Streptococcus pneumoniae* (1, 3, 4, 5, 6A, 6B, 7F, 9V, 14, 18C, 19A, 19F, and 23F). It is also indicated for the prevention of ear infections caused by 7 strains of *Streptococcus pneumoniae* (4, 6B, 9V, 14, 18C, 19F, and 23F).

The manufacturer has a plan for the return of unused PCV 7 and information on this process will be sent directly to physicians.

For additional information refer to the CDC web site: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/provisional/downloads/pcv13-mar-2010-508.pdf

The second page of this blastfax has the specific recommendations for administration of PCV 13.

A Message from the Georgia Immunization Program Regarding Reminders for Second Dose Administration of H1N1 Influenza Vaccine

In an effort to remind parents/guardians to follow up for the second dose of H1N1 vaccine for their children 6 months through 9 years, the Georgia Department of Community Health and GRITS will initiate a reminder post card project. Using GRITS information for children in this age group, any child with only one dose of H1N1 vaccine documented will be sent a post card reminder to follow up with their physician or contact their local health department to get their second dose of vaccine. Per CDC/ACIP guidance, all children 6 months through 9 years of age should receive two doses of H1N1 influenza vaccine to provide protection against this influenza disease. The post card reminder will be mailed mid-March 2010.

For questions or concerns regarding this blastfax or any other immunization information, please contact the Chapter's Immunization Coordinator, Mike Chaney at (404) 881-5094 or mchaney@gaaap.org.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends PCV13 for:

All children 2 through 59 months of age and children 60 through 71 months who have underlying medical conditions that increase their risk of pneumococcal disease or complications.

For infants 2-6 months:

- PCV13 replaces PCV7 as a 4-dose series at 2, 4, 6, and 12 through 15 months
- Children who have received one or more doses of PCV7 should complete the immunization series with PCV13

For children 7 months of age and older who have not previously received PCV7 or PCV13:

7 through 11 months of age

- Three doses of PCV13 (at least 4 weeks between dose 1 & 2)
- Dose 3 at age 12 through 15 months, at least 8 weeks after the second dose

12 through 23 months of age

- Two doses of PCV13, at least 8 weeks between doses

24 months of age and older

- A single dose of PCV13

24 through 71 months of age with underlying medical conditions

- 2 doses of PCV13, at least 8 weeks between doses

Children incompletely vaccinated with PCV7 or PCV13

Less than 24 months of age

- Complete the immunization series with PCV13.

Healthy children 24 months through 59 months of age

- A single dose of PCV13

Children 24 through 71 months with underlying medical conditions

- Two doses of PCV13 for those who previously have received less than 3 doses of PCV7
- A single dose of PCV13 for those who previously have received 3 doses of PCV7

Children completely vaccinated with PCV7

A single dose of PCV13 for all children 14 through 59 months of age

A single dose of PCV13 for children who have underlying medical conditions through 71 months of age. This includes children who have previously received (PPSV23).

PCV13 should be given at least 8 weeks after the last dose of PCV7 or PPSV23.

Children 6 through 18 years of age with high risk conditions

A single dose of PCV13 may be administered to children 6 through 18 years of age who are at increased risk for invasive pneumococcal disease because of sickle cell disease, HIV-infection or other immunocompromising conditions, cochlear implant or cerebrospinal fluid leaks, regardless of whether they have previously received PCV7 or PPSV23.