



# Durham Region Health Department FAX about...

For Health Care Professionals



## Pneumococcal Vaccine Program Transition

Ontario's publicly funded pneumococcal vaccine program is transitioning to the following:

- Pneumococcal 15-valent conjugate (**Pneu-C-15**), Vaxneuvance®
- Pneumococcal 20-valent conjugate (**Pneu-C-20**), Prevnar 20®

The bacterium *Streptococcus pneumoniae* causes invasive pneumococcal disease (IPD), community acquired pneumonia (CAP) and acute otitis media (AOM). IPD is most common in the very young, the elderly, and groups at increased risk due to an underlying medical, environmental, or living condition.

These two new pneumococcal conjugate vaccines will provide **broader protection** against IPD compared to Pneu-C-13 and **longer-term protection** than Pneu-P-23. They follow the same dosing and spacing intervals as previous pneumococcal vaccines. Publicly funded eligibility has not changed, and re-vaccination is not part of the product transition.

Vaccine program	Eligible age group	Previous vaccine	New vaccine
Routine	6 weeks to 4 years of age	Pneu-C-13 (Prevnar-13)	<b>Pneu-C-15 (Vaxneuvance®)</b>
Routine	≥65 years of age	Pneu-P-23 (Pneumovax-23)	<b>Pneu-C-20 (Prevnar 20®)</b>
High risk	≥6 weeks of age high risk for IPD	Pneu-P-23 and Pneu-C-13	<b>All doses as Pneu-C-20 (Prevnar 20®)</b>

### Vaccine Stock Transitions

Distribution to healthcare providers will begin within the next two weeks and can be administered once received. Please return Pneu-C-13 and Pneu-P-23 to the Durham Region Health Department (DRHD) accompanied by a completed [Vaccine Return Form](#) (durham.ca/hcp then see Forms and Reporting). Vaccine returned to DRHD does not need to be returned in cold chain.

### Ordering New Pneumococcal Vaccines

Please use the updated [Monthly Order Form](#) (durham.ca/hcp then see Forms and Order).

- **Pneu-C-15**, Vaxneuvance®: 1 or 10 dose packages of prefilled syringes
- **Pneu-C-20**, Prevnar 20®: 10 dose packages of prefilled syringes

For further information on pneumococcal vaccines please see [NACI](#).

July 12, 2024

