

**If you're 50 or older, talk to your doctor about pneumococcal pneumonia, whether you may be at risk, and whether vaccination makes sense for you.**



### **Q: What is pneumococcal pneumonia?**

**A:** Pneumococcal pneumonia can be a serious disease, and becomes more common beginning at age 50. It's a bacterial illness caused by *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, a type of bacteria that can be carried in the throats of up to 70% of healthy people. Pneumococcal pneumonia has been estimated to be responsible for as many as 302,000 hospitalizations in the United States each year.

### **Q: How serious is it?**

**A:** Pneumococcal pneumonia is serious. Its symptoms can be severe, appear quickly and some symptoms like cough and fatigue can last for weeks—or months.

### **Q: Who's at increased risk for pneumococcal pneumonia?**

**A:** If you're an adult aged 50 or over, you may be at increased risk for pneumococcal pneumonia.

### **Q: Is there anything I can do to prevent it?**

**A:** If you're 50 or older, vaccination is a way to help protect against pneumococcal pneumonia. Ask your health care provider if it makes sense for you.

### **Q: What is PREVNAR 13®?**

**A:** PREVNAR 13® is a vaccine approved for adults 50 years of age and older for the prevention of pneumococcal pneumonia and invasive disease caused by the 13 *Streptococcus pneumoniae* strains included in the vaccine. This indication is based upon immune responses to the vaccine, and not on trials evaluating decreases in pneumococcal disease in adults.

### **Q: Are there side effects?**

**A:** Because PREVNAR 13® is given by injection, the most common side effects reported in clinical trials were injection site reactions, such as: redness, swelling, pain at the injection site, or limitation of arm movement. Some people reported systemic side effects, including: fatigue, headache, muscle pain, joint pain, decreased appetite, chills, or rash. PREVNAR 13® should not be given to anyone with a severe allergic reaction to any component of PREVNAR 13® or any diphtheria toxoid-containing vaccine. Please see additional Important Safety Information on the next page.

### **Q: Who is PREVNAR 13® for?**

**A:** PREVNAR 13® is approved for use in adults aged 50 and over. Even if you're as young as 50, consider doing something to help prevent pneumococcal pneumonia. Talk to your doctor to see if PREVNAR 13® is right for you.

### **Q: Who should not take PREVNAR 13®?**

**A:** PREVNAR 13® should not be given to anyone with a history of severe allergic reaction to any component of PREVNAR 13® or any diphtheria toxoid-containing vaccine.

## **INDICATIONS FOR PREVNAR 13®**

- Prevnar 13® is a vaccine approved for adults 50 years of age and older for the prevention of pneumococcal pneumonia and invasive disease caused by 13 *Streptococcus pneumoniae* strains (1, 3, 4, 5, 6A, 6B, 7F, 9V, 14, 18C, 19A, 19F, and 23F). This indication is based upon immune responses to the vaccine
- For children 6 weeks through 17 years of age, Prevnar 13® is approved for the prevention of invasive disease caused by the 13 vaccine strains, and for children 6 weeks through 5 years for the prevention of otitis media caused by 7 of the 13 strains
- Prevnar 13® is not 100% effective and will only help protect against the 13 strains included in the vaccine
- Effectiveness when given less than 5 years after a pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine is not known

## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

- Prevnar 13<sup>®</sup> should not be given to anyone with a history of severe allergic reaction to any component of Prevnar 13<sup>®</sup> or any diphtheria toxoid-containing vaccine
- Children and adults with weakened immune systems (eg, HIV infection, leukemia) may have a reduced immune response
- In adults, immune responses to Prevnar 13<sup>®</sup> were reduced when given with injected seasonal flu vaccine
- In adults, the common side effects were pain, redness, or swelling at the injection site, limitation of arm movement, fatigue, headache, muscle pain, joint pain, decreased appetite, chills, or rash
- A temporary pause of breathing following vaccination has been observed in some infants born prematurely
- The most commonly reported serious adverse events in infants and toddlers were bronchiolitis (an infection of the lungs) (0.9%), gastroenteritis (inflammation of the stomach and small intestine) (0.9%), and pneumonia (0.9%)
- In children 6 weeks through 17 years, the most common side effects were tenderness, redness, or swelling at the injection site, irritability, decreased appetite, decreased or increased sleep, and fever
- Ask your health care provider about the risks and benefits of Prevnar 13<sup>®</sup>. Only a health care provider can decide if Prevnar 13<sup>®</sup> is right for you

**You are encouraged to report negative side effects of vaccines to the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Visit [www.vaers.hhs.gov](http://www.vaers.hhs.gov) or call 1-800-822-7967.**

[Please see full Prescribing Information](#)



**Pfizer Helpful Answers<sup>®</sup>**

For Prevnar 13<sup>®</sup> (Pneumococcal 13-valent Conjugate Vaccine  
[Diphtheria CRM<sub>197</sub> Protein])

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**Wyeth<sup>®</sup>**

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