

ACTIVE LEARNING TEMPLATE: Medication

STUDENT NAME: Carolina Rodriguez

MEDICATION: Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine (23-Valent)

CATEGORY CLASS: Vaccine; Vaccine, Inactivated (Bacterial) (Generic: Pneumovax)

PURPOSE OF MEDICATION

Expected Pharmacological
Active immunization to prevent pneumococcal disease

Therapeutic
Prevention of pneumococcal disease caused by the 23 serotypes in the vaccine for people 2 years and older at increased risk and people 50 years and older

Complications
Pain, redness, swelling, or other reaction where the injection was given; headache; feeling tired or weak; muscle or joint pain; chills.
Signs of allergic reaction: rash; hives; itching; red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin with or without fever; wheezing; tightness in the chest or throat; trouble breathing, swallowing, or talking; unusual hoarseness; swelling of the mouth, face, lips, tongue, or throat

Medication Administration
Dose: 0.5 mL IM or SubQ
Adults: one time dose; revaccination may be needed 5 or more years later for high risk groups. Pediatrics (2 years old and older with high risk): 0.5 mL IM/SubQ; revaccinate 5 years or more later if needed. Important: not effective in children 2 years and younger. Never IV or intradermal

Contraindications/Precautions
Contraindications: Severe allergic reaction to pneumococcal vaccine or any component of the formulation; anaphylactic/anaphylactoid reaction
Precautions: Anaphylactoid/hypersensitivity reactions: immediate treatment should be available during vaccine use. Shoulder injury: use proper technique for vaccine administered in deltoid. Syncope: procedures should be in place to avoid injuries from falling and to restore

Nursing
Screen for allergies, immune status, and vaccine history. Monitor closely post injection for hypersensitivity or syncope. Use fine needle and firm pressure 2 minutes or greater for bleeding risk patients. Use separate syringe/site if giving with other vaccines.

Interactions
Can be given with other vaccines (different sites/syringes); immunosuppressive drugs may reduce the patient's response to the vaccine

Client
Protects against serious pneumococcal infections but not all respiratory infections. Common side effects: mild arm pain, redness, fatigue, headache. Severe allergic reactions are rare; if experiencing, seek emergency care if breathing problems, hives, or swelling occur. Some may need revaccination depending on age/health condition

Evaluation of Medication Effectiveness
Vaccine is effective if patient does not develop pneumococcal infection; lower rates of pneumonia, meningitis, or sepsis in high risk populations