IOWA | Health and Human Services

Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine Use in Children - Vaccine Summary September 2023

Purpose

- Effective September 27, 2023, Prevnar 20 (PCV20) vaccine, manufactured by Pfizer is available to order through the Iowa VFC Program.
- Effective August 29, 2023, Iowa VFC providers will no longer be able to order Prevnar 13 (PCV13) due to discontinuation of the product.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

On April 27, 2023, the FDA expanded and approved Prevnar20 for use in individuals ages 6 weeks and older (Prevnar 20 was previously licensed for adults aged ≥ 18 years).

VFC Program Resolution

The Federal VFC Program follows the ACIP recommendations for the use of PCV20 as an option for vaccinating eligible children ages 6 weeks through 18 years.

Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)

On June 22, 2023, CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended use of PCV20 as an option for pneumococcal vaccination of persons aged 2 months -18 years of age according to the currently recommended PCV dosing and schedules. The recommendations were adopted by the CDC director on June 27, 2023, and are now official.

ACIP Recommended Schedule for Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccines in Children

- Use of either pneumococcal conjugate vaccines (PCV) PCV15 or PCV20 is recommended for all children aged 2–23 months according to currently recommended PCV dosing and schedules.
- For children with an incomplete PCV vaccination status, use of either PCV15 or PCV20 according to currently recommended PCV dosing and schedules is recommended for:

    - Healthy children aged 24–59 months
    - Children with specified health conditions [(1)] aged 24 through 71 months
- For children aged 2–18 years with any risk condition who have received all recommended doses of PCV before age 6 years
    - Using ≥1 dose(s) of PCV20: No additional doses of any pneumococcal vaccine are indicated. This recommendation may be updated as additional data become available.
    - Using PCV13 or PCV15 (no PCV20): A dose of PCV20 or PPSV23 using previously recommended dosing and schedules is recommended.
- For children aged 6–18 years with any risk condition who have not received any dose of PCV13, PCV15, or PCV20, a single dose of PCV15 or PCV20 is recommended. When PCV15 is used, it should be followed by a dose of PPSV23 at least 8 weeks later if not previously given.

[1)]Risk conditions include: cerebrospinal fluid leak; chronic heart disease; chronic kidney disease (excluding maintenance dialysis and nephrotic syndrome, which are included in immunocompromising conditions); chronic liver disease; chronic lung disease (including moderate persistent or severe persistent asthma); cochlear implant; diabetes mellitus; immunocompromising conditions (on maintenance dialysis or with nephrotic syndrome; congenital or acquired asplenia or splenic dysfunction; congenital or acquired immunodeficiencies; diseases and conditions treated with immunosuppressive drugs or radiation therapy, including malignant neoplasms, leukemias, lymphomas, Hodgkin disease, and solid organ transplant; HIV infection; and sickle cell disease and other hemoglobinopathies).

If only PCV13 is available when the child is scheduled to receive PCV, PCV13 may be given as previously recommended. If a child started the PCV series with PCV13, the child may complete the series with PCV15 or PCV20 without giving additional doses. The PCV series does not need to be restarted.

Recommended Dosage and Administration

The recommended dose is 0.5mL administered as an intramuscular injection. Both PCV15 and PCV20 are supplied as a prefilled syringe. Refer to the package inserts for further details. PCV15 or PCV20 can be administered at the same time as other vaccines.

Vaccine Storage and Handling

- Store refrigerated at 2 - 8°C (36 - 46°F).
- Store syringes horizontally to minimize resuspension time (PCV20).

- Do not freeze. Protect from the light.
- Do not use product if exposed to out-of-range temperatures.
- Do not use after expiration date shown on the label.

Precautions

- Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever.

Contraindications

- Severe allergic reaction (e.g. anaphylaxis) to any vaccine component or following a prior dose.
- Severe allergic reaction (e.g. anaphylaxis) to any diphtheria-toxoid-containing vaccine or to its vaccine component.

Always consult the package insert for precautions, warning and contraindications and the most current guidance from CDC.

Reporting of Adverse Events

Adverse events following administration of any vaccine should be reported to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). Reports can be submitted to VAERS online, by fax, or by mail. Additional information about VAERS is available by telephone (1-800-822-7967) or online (https://vaers.hhs.gov).

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