

## Vaccination for Patients with Cochlear Implants

Updated in 2012, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) now recommends that all patients with a cochlear implant should be vaccinated to prevent against Pneumococcal Meningitis with the pneumococcal conjugate (Pneumovax 23) in addition to the pneumococcal polysaccharide (Pneumovax 23) vaccine.

### What is Pneumococcal Meningitis?

Meningitis is an infection. The infection is in the fluid that surrounds the brain. There are two main types of meningitis, viral and bacterial. Pneumococcal meningitis is a type of bacterial meningitis that has been reported in people with cochlear implants. This can be a serious infection. Prevention with immunizations is strongly recommended.

### What vaccinations are recommended?

#### *Guideline for children:*

- Children should routinely receive Pevnar 13 according to the CDC childhood vaccination schedule
- All children older than 2 years should also receive one dose of Pneumovax 23
- Children 2-5 years without prior or Pevnar 13 or Pevnar 7 (previously available 2001-2010) should receive two doses of Pevnar 13, given two or more months apart.
- Children 2-5 years who have previously received Pevnar 7 should receive one dose of Pevnar 13
- Children 6-18 years should receive a single dose of Pevnar 13 regardless of prior vaccination with Pevnar 7

#### *Guideline for adults:*

- 19 years and older should receive a single dose of Pevnar 13 followed by a single dose of Pneumovax 23, 8 weeks later.
- For adults who have previously received one or more doses of Pneumovax 23, Pevnar 13 should be given more than one year after the last Pneumovax 23 dose.
- A booster dose of Pneumovax 23 should be given after age 65 years regardless of prior vaccination, to be given at least 5 years after the most recent dose of Penumovax 23.

More information can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/mening/hcp/dis-cochlear-gen.html>

These are the vaccinations recommended by your surgeon. Please provide this form to your Primary Care Provider to obtain vaccination prior to your surgery. Then, please return this form to your cochlear implant surgeon for proof of vaccination.

Order	Vaccine	Date Administered	Provider signature
	Pneumococcal conjugate (Pevnar 13) Single dose		
	Pneumococcal conjugate (Pevnar 13) Two doses (give >2month apart)	1.  2.	
	Pneumococcal polysaccharide (Pneumovax 23)  -Give 8 weeks after Pevnar 13 (if previously given)		
	Pneumococcal conjugate (Pevnar 13)  <i>AND</i>  Pneumococcal polysaccharide (Pneumovax 23)  -Give 8 weeks after Pevnar 13		