


# Yukon Immunization Program Manual

**Section 8 — Biological Products**

**Pneumococcal Vaccines**

May 2026



## Table of Contents

---

<b>Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (Pneumo-C-15) VAXNEUVANCE®</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (Pneumo-C-20) Prevnar®20</b> .....	<b>7</b>
Table 1: Completion of Interrupted Pneumococcal Series for Children 8 weeks to 59 months at High-Risk of Invasive Pneumococcal Disease (IPD) .....	8
Table 2: Immune-Compromising Conditions (High-Risk for IPD) .....	8
Table 3: Other Medical or Social Risk Factors for IPD .....	9

Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (Pneumo-C-15)		VAXNEUVANCE®		
Manufacturer	Merck	Biological Classification	Inactivated Conjugate Vaccine	
INDICATIONS	<b>STANDARD SCHEDULE</b>			
	<b>Routine Schedule for Healthy Infants and Children (8 weeks to 59 months of age)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1st Dose:</b> 0.5 mL IM at 8 weeks of age</li> <li>• <b>2nd Dose:</b> 0.5 mL IM at 16 weeks of age</li> <li>• <b>3rd Dose:</b> 0.5 mL IM at 12 months of age</li> </ul>		
	<b>INTERRUPTED SCHEDULE</b>			
	<b>Age at Presentation</b>	<b>Number of Historical Doses (PCV7, PCV10 or PCV13)</b>	<b>PCV15 Doses Needed</b>	<b>PCV15 Booster Required</b>
	<b>8 weeks to less than 7 months</b>	0 doses	2 doses	1 dose after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday
		1 dose	1 dose	
		2 doses	0 doses	
	<b>7 months to less than 12 months</b>	0 doses	2 doses	
		1 dose	1 dose	
		2 doses	0 doses	
<b>12 months to less than 24 months</b>	0 doses	2 doses	NONE REQUIRED	
	1 dose before 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday	2 doses		
	2 doses before 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday	1 dose		
	0 or 1 dose(s) before 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday AND 1 dose after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday	1 dose		
<b>24 months to 59 months</b>	All age-appropriate series incomplete by 24 months ⓘ	1 dose		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ⓘ <b>Minimum Spacing:</b> 8 weeks between conjugate vaccine doses</li> <li>ⓘ <b>A completed series means:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least 3 valid doses of a pneumococcal conjugate vaccine, AND</li> <li>• At least 1 dose given at 12 months of age or older, AND</li> <li>• Minimum 8 weeks between last two doses</li> </ul> </li> <li>ⓘ <b>Accepted products:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PCV13 or PCV15: 3-dose primary + booster (standard)</li> <li>• PCV7 or PCV10: if child received full series AND a booster after 12 months</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				

<b>Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (Pneumo-C-15)</b>		<b>VAXNEUVANCE®</b>
<b>CONTRAINDICATIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>History of severe allergic reaction</b> to a previous dose of pneumococcal vaccine, to any component of the vaccine, or to any diphtheria toxoid-containing vaccine.</li> <li>• <b>Severe acute illness:</b> Postpone immunization until recovery.</li> </ul>	
<b>PRECAUTIONS AND SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Minor acute illness:</b> Immunization should not be delayed due to minor illness, with or without fever.</li> <li>• <b>Series completion:</b> Individuals who started their vaccine series with Prevnar®13 can complete the series with VAXNEUVANCE® (Pneumo-C-15).</li> <li>• <b>High-Risk Individuals:</b> If the client is diagnosed with a risk factor for invasive pneumococcal disease (IDP), refer to PREVNAR®20 immunization guidelines.</li> <li>• <b>Previously Immunized with Prevnar®13:</b> Healthy children with a completed series of Prevnar®13 do not require re-immunization with VAXNEUVANCE® or PREVNAR®20.</li> </ul>	
<b>PREGNANCY AND LACTATION</b>	Not indicated for this population	
<b>INTERCHANGEABILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevnar®20 may be used at any point in the series if VAXNEUVANCE® is unavailable.</li> <li>• Doses of PCV13, PCV15, and PCV20 may be considered interchangeable for healthy children when necessary to complete a series, although the same product should be used whenever possible.</li> </ul>	
<b>RECONSTITUTION AND DILUTION</b>	No reconstitution or dilution needed.	
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Infants (under 12 months):</b> IM injection into the anterolateral thigh (vastus lateralis).</li> <li>• <b>Children (12 months to 59 months):</b> IM injection into the deltoid muscle of the upper arm.</li> <li>• <b>Do not inject</b> into the gluteal area or anywhere near major nerves or blood vessels.</li> </ul>	

Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (Pneumo-C-15)		VAXNEUVANCE®
CONCURRENT ADMINISTRATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May be given at the same visit as other inactivated or live vaccines.</li> <li>• Use a separate needle and syringe for each vaccine and inject at different anatomical sites.</li> </ul>	
SEROLOGICAL TESTING	Serologic testing is <b>not recommended</b> before or after administration of pneumococcal vaccine.	
VACCINE COMPONENTS	Each 0.5 mL dose contains: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 32 mcg of total pneumococcal polysaccharide, including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 2.0 mcg each of serotypes: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6A, 7F, 9V, 14, 18C, 19A, 19F, 22F, 23F, 33F</li> <li>○ 4.0 mcg of serotype 6B</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 30 mcg of CRM197 carrier protein</li> <li>• 125 mcg of aluminum (as aluminum phosphate adjuvant)</li> <li>• 20 mM L-histidine</li> <li>• 1 mg of polysorbate 20</li> <li>• 150 mM sodium chloride</li> <li>• Water for injection</li> </ul>	
APPEARANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not use the vaccine if you see particulate matter or discoloration.</li> <li>• Always inspect the vaccine visually before administration.</li> <li>• The vaccine should appear as an opalescent suspension.</li> </ul>	
BLOOD/ BLOOD PRODUCTS	Does not contain blood or blood products.	
BOVINE/ PORCINE PRODUCTS	Does not contain bovine or porcine products.	
LATEX	The tip cap and plunger stopper of the prefilled syringe are latex free.	

Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (Pneumo-C-15)		VAXNEUVANCE®
EXPECTED REACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Local:</b> Pain, redness, and swelling at the injection site.</li> <li>• <b>Systemic:</b> Irritability, decreased appetite, changes in sleep patterns (increased or decreased), low-grade fever, fatigue, headache, joint pain (arthralgia), and muscle aches (myalgia).</li> </ul>	
STORAGE AND HANDLING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Temperature:</b> Store in the refrigerator at 2°C to 8°C.</li> <li>• <b>Protect from light. Do NOT freeze.</b></li> <li>• Use the single-dose prefilled syringe.</li> <li>• Shake vigorously while holding horizontally immediately before use to obtain an opalescent suspension.</li> <li>• Do not use if the vaccine cannot be resuspended.</li> <li>• <b>After reconstitution:</b> Administer as soon as possible after removal from the refrigerator.</li> </ul>	
<b>REFERENCES AND RESOURCES</b>		
<a href="#">National Advisory Committee on Immunization Statements</a> <a href="#">Canadian Immunization Guide</a> <a href="#">VAXNEUVANCE® Product Monograph</a>		

<b>Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (Pneumo-C-20)</b>		<b>Prevnar®20</b>	
<b>Manufacturer</b>	Pfizer Canada Inc	<b>Biological Classification</b>	Inactivated Conjugate Vaccine
<b>INDICATIONS</b>	<b>SCHEDULE</b>		
	<b>Children 8 weeks to 59 months of age with risk factors for Invasive Pneumococcal Disease (IPD)</b> (Refer to Tables 2 and 3 for eligible risk factors)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1<sup>st</sup> Dose:</b> 0.5 mL IM at 8 weeks of age</li> <li>• <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Dose:</b> 0.5 mL IM at 16 weeks of age</li> <li>• <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Dose:</b> 0.5 mL IM at 24 weeks of age</li> <li>• <b>4<sup>th</sup> Dose:</b> 0.5 mL IM at 12 months of age</li> <li>• <b>See Table 1 for Completion of Interrupted Series</b></li> </ul>	
	<b>Children less than 18 years with IPD risk factors who have already completed a Pneumo-C-13 series</b> (See Tables 2 and 3 for eligibility)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1 Dose:</b> 0.5 mL IM</li> </ul>	
	<b>Adults 18-49 years with immunocompromising conditions</b> (See Table 2 for eligibility)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1 Dose:</b> 0.5 mL IM</li> </ul>	
	<b>Adults 50-64 years with immunocompromising conditions or other risk factors for IPD</b> (See Tables 2 and 3 for eligibility)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1 Dose:</b> 0.5 mL IM</li> </ul>	
	<b>Adults 65 years and older</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1 Dose:</b> 0.5 mL IM</li> </ul>	
	<b>Minimum Spacing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Between conjugate vaccines (PCV13, PCV15, PCV20): 8 weeks</li> <li>• From polysaccharide to conjugate vaccine (e.g., Pneu-P-23 → PCV20): 1 year</li> </ul>		

**Table 1: Completion of Interrupted Pneumococcal Series for Children 8 weeks to 59 months at High-Risk of Invasive Pneumococcal Disease (IPD)**

Age at Presentation	Number of Historical Doses (PCV7, PCV10 or PCV13)	Pneumovax-20 Doses Needed	Pneumovax-20 Booster Required?
8 weeks to less than 7 months	0 doses	3 doses	1 dose after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday
	1 dose	2 doses	
	2 doses	1 dose	
7 months to less than 12 months	0 doses	2 doses	
	1 dose	1 dose	
	2 doses	0 doses	
12 months to less than 24 months	0 doses	2 doses	NONE REQUIRED
	1 dose before 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday	2 doses	
	2 doses before 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday	1 dose	
24 months to 59 months	0 doses of Pneu-C-20	1 dose	

**Table 2: Immune-Compromising Conditions (High-Risk for IPD)**

- **Sickle cell disease**, congenital or acquired **asplenia**, or **splenic dysfunction**
- **Congenital immunodeficiencies** affecting:
  - B-lymphocyte (humoral) immunity
  - T-lymphocyte (cell-mediated) immunity
  - Complement system (e.g., properdin or factor D deficiencies)
  - Phagocytic function
- **Immunocompromising therapy**, including:
  - Long-term corticosteroid use
  - Chemotherapy
  - Radiation therapy
  - Post-organ transplant therapy
- **HIV infection**
- **Hematopoietic stem cell transplant (HSCT)** recipient
- **Malignant neoplasms**, including leukemia or lymphoma
- **Nephrotic syndrome**
- **Solid organ or islet transplant** (candidate or recipient)

**Table 3: Other Medical or Social Risk Factors for IPD**

- **Chronic cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) leak**
- **Chronic neurologic conditions** that may impair clearance of oral secretions
- **Cochlear implants recipients or candidates**
- **Chronic heart disease**
- **Diabetes mellitus**
- **Chronic kidney disease**
- **Chronic liver disease**, including cirrhosis of any cause
- **Chronic lung disease**, including asthma requiring medical care in the past 12 months
- **Residents of long-term care facilities**
- **Individuals who:**
  - Smoke
  - Use illicit drugs
  - Have alcohol use disorder
  - Are experiencing homelessness

<b>Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (Pneumo-C-20)</b>		<b>Prevnar®20</b>
<b>BOOSTER DOSES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-immunization with the same-valency conjugate vaccine following the completion of an age-appropriate schedule is not currently recommended, as it is not known whether additional doses will provide added benefit (e.g., children at increased risk of IPD who have completed a vaccine series that includes at least one dose of Pneu-C-20 after 12 months of age, do not require further doses; adults for whom Pneu-C-20 is indicated should only receive one dose).</li> </ul>	
<b>CONTRAINDICATIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>History of severe allergic reaction</b> to a previous dose of pneumococcal vaccine, to any component of the vaccine, or to any diphtheria toxoid-containing vaccine.</li> <li>• <b>Severe acute illness:</b> Postpone immunization until recovery.</li> </ul>	
<b>PRECAUTIONS AND SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Minimum intervals between pneumococcal vaccines:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Between conjugate vaccines (PCV13, PCV15, PCV20): 8 weeks</li> <li>○ From polysaccharide to conjugate vaccine (e.g., Pneu-P-23 → PCV20): 1 year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Note: Shortened intervals (8 weeks) may be considered for immunocompromised individuals, YIP approval is required.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Minor acute illness:</b> Do not delay immunization due to minor illness, with or without fever.</li> <li>• <b>Splenectomy:</b> Ideally, give pneumococcal vaccine at least 14 days before splenectomy. If not possible, wait 14 days after surgery.</li> <li>• <b>Previously Immunized with Prevnar®13:</b> Healthy children with a completed series of Prevnar®13 do not require re-immunization with Prevnar®20.</li> <li>• <b>Previously Immunized with Prevnar®23:</b> If client meets eligibility as per Indications for Prevnar®20, clients who previously received Pneu-P-23 should still be immunized. Pneu-P-23 does not induce long-lasting immune memory; Prevnar®20 provides longer-lasting protection. Follow minimum intervals.</li> </ul>	
<b>PREGNANCY AND LACTATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is insufficient evidence to determine vaccine-associated risks during pregnancy.</li> <li>• It is unknown whether the vaccine is excreted in human milk.</li> </ul>	

<b>INTERCHANGEABILITY</b>	Pevnar®20 should not be used for routine pneumococcal immunization in healthy children. It may be used only if Pneumo-C-15 (VAXNEUVANCE®) is not available.
<b>RECONSTITUTION AND DILUTION</b>	No reconstitution or dilution needed.

<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Infants (&lt;12 months):</b> IM injection into the anterolateral thigh (vastus lateralis).</li> <li>• <b>Children (≥12 months):</b> IM injection into the deltoid muscle of the upper arm.</li> <li>• <b>Do not inject</b> into the gluteal area or anywhere near major nerves or blood vessels.</li> </ul>
<b>CONCURRENT ADMINISTRATION WITH OTHER VACCINES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May be given at the same visit as other inactivated or live vaccines.</li> <li>• Use a separate needle and syringe for each vaccine and inject at different anatomical sites.</li> </ul>
<b>SEROLOGICAL TESTING</b>	<p>Serologic testing is <b>not recommended</b> before or after administration of pneumococcal vaccine.</p>
<b>VACCINE COMPONENTS</b>	<p>Each 0.5 mL dose contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2.2 mcg each of serotypes: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6A, 7F, 8, 9V, 10A, 11A, 12F, 14, 15B, 18C, 19A, 19F, 22F, 23F and 33F</li> <li>• 4.4 mcg of serotype 6B</li> <li>• 51 mcg of CRM197 carrier protein</li> <li>• 100 mcg of polysorbate 80</li> <li>• 295 mcg succinic acid</li> <li>• 4.4 mg sodium chloride</li> <li>• 125 mcg aluminum phosphate adjuvant</li> <li>• Water for injection</li> </ul>
<b>APPEARANCE</b>	<p>Homogeneous white suspension.</p>
<b>BLOOD/ BLOOD PRODUCTS</b>	<p>Does not contain blood or blood products.</p>
<b>BOVINE/ PORCINE PRODUCTS</b>	<p>Does not contain bovine or porcine products.</p>
<b>LATEX</b>	<p>The tip cap and plunger stopper of the prefilled syringe are latex free.</p>

<p><b>EXPECTED REACTIONS</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Local:</b> Pain, redness and swelling at the injection site.</li> <li>• <b>Systemic:</b> Irritability, decreased appetite, changes in sleep patterns (increased or decreased), low-grade fever, fatigue, headache, joint pain (arthralgia), and muscle aches (myalgia).</li> </ul>
<p><b>STORAGE AND HANDLING</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Temperature:</b> Store in the refrigerator at 2°C to 8°C.</li> <li>• <b>Protect from light. Do NOT freeze.</b></li> <li>• <b>Store Horizontally:</b> to minimize the re-dispersion time.</li> <li>• Hold the pre-filled syringe horizontally between the thumb and the forefinger and shake vigorously until the contents of the syringe are homogeneous white.</li> <li>• Do not use the vaccine if it cannot be re-suspended.</li> <li>• Visually inspect the vaccine for large particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration. Do not use if particulate matter or discoloration are present.</li> <li>• <b>After reconstitution:</b> Administer as soon as possible after removal from the refrigerator.</li> </ul>
<p><b>REFERENCES AND RESOURCES</b></p>	
<p><a href="#">National Advisory Committee on Immunization Statements</a>  <a href="#">Canadian Immunization Guide</a>  <a href="#">Pevnar®20 Product Monograph</a></p>	