

Pneumococcal Polysaccharide (23-valent) Vaccine

This information is a supplement to [Pharmacists & Publicly Funded Vaccines in B.C.—General Information](#).

Pharmacist Access Criteria

Publicly funded pneumococcal polysaccharide (23 valent) vaccines can be requested for administration to eligible B.C. residents who present to a pharmacist.

For patients who meet public health eligibility criteria, this publicly funded vaccination is available at no charge to the patient. PharmaCare will pay a \$10 fee to the pharmacy for administering this injection to a person aged 5 years and older (as per [College of Pharmacists of BC Standards, Limits and Conditions](#)).

Other B.C. residents may purchase pneumococcal polysaccharide (23 valent) vaccine and may pay to have the vaccine administered by an authorized pharmacist. Vaccine costs, including administration supplies and services, are paid for by individuals out of pocket. Selected private drug plans may also cover vaccine costs.

Products

The publicly funded pneumococcal polysaccharide (23 valent) vaccines available in B.C. are Pneumo[®] 23 and Pneumovax[®] 23.

For specific information about all pneumococcal polysaccharide (23 valent) vaccines, refer to each individual product monograph in the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) Immunization Manual [Section VII – Biological Products](#).

Patient Eligibility

Current recommendations and patient eligibility criteria for publicly funded pneumococcal polysaccharide (23 valent) vaccine are provided within the individual product monographs in the BCCDC Immunization Manual [Section VII – Biological Products](#).

Note: The eligibility criteria for publicly funded pneumococcal polysaccharide (23 valent) vaccine in B.C. are established by the [BCCDC](#) and may differ from those of the [National Advisory Committee on Immunization](#) (NACI).