

# Pneumococcal Vaccine, 15-valent Conjugate (Pneu-C15): Vaxneuvance®

Implementation Date: June 24, 2024

Please consult the <a href="#">Product Monograph</a> for further information about the product.							
<b>Vaxneuvance® Pneumococcal 15-valent Conjugate Vaccine (Pneu-C15)</b>							
<b>Manufacturer</b>	Merck Canada Inc.						
<b>Licensed use</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individuals 6 weeks of age and older.<sup>(1)</sup></li> </ul>						
<b>Off-license use</b>	None						
<b>Indications for use of provincially funded vaccine</b>	<p>Children two months up to and including 59 months of age who are not considered <a href="#">high risk for invasive pneumococcal disease (IPD)</a>.</p> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <p>Regardless of previous IPD, pneumococcal conjugate vaccine is recommended. If a series is interrupted due to IPD, the series should be continued once the individual has recovered.</p> <p>For disease investigation and reporting requirements, refer to <a href="#">Public Health Notifiable Disease Management Guidelines – Invasive Pneumococcal Disease</a>.<sup>(2)</sup></p>						
<b>Dose</b>	0.5 mL <sup>(1)</sup>						
<b>Route</b>	Intramuscular injection <sup>(1)</sup>						
<b>Schedule</b>	Healthy children who started a series with another pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (i.e., Pneu-C, Pneu-C10 or Pneu-C13) should complete their series with Pneu-C15 conjugate vaccine. Previous doses will be counted, and the series will not be restarted. <sup>(3)</sup>						
	<b>Healthy Children – Routine Schedule<sup>(4)</sup></b>						
	<b>Starting immunization at:</b>						
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><b>2 months up to and including 11 months of age (3 doses)</b></td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Dose 1: two months of age</li> <li>❖ Dose 2: four months of age</li> <li>❖ Dose 3: 12 months of age.</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>12 months up to and including 23 months of age (2 doses)</b></td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Dose 1: primary dose - day 0</li> <li>❖ Dose 2: reinforcing dose - eight weeks after 1<sup>st</sup> dose</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>24 months up to and including 59 months of age</b></td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ 1 dose</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table>	<b>2 months up to and including 11 months of age (3 doses)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Dose 1: two months of age</li> <li>❖ Dose 2: four months of age</li> <li>❖ Dose 3: 12 months of age.</li> </ul>	<b>12 months up to and including 23 months of age (2 doses)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Dose 1: primary dose - day 0</li> <li>❖ Dose 2: reinforcing dose - eight weeks after 1<sup>st</sup> dose</li> </ul>	<b>24 months up to and including 59 months of age</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ 1 dose</li> </ul>
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<b>24 months up to and including 59 months of age</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ 1 dose</li> </ul>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dose 1 may be administered to infants as early as six weeks of age.<sup>(1)</sup></li> <li>The recommended interval between doses 1 and 2 for children younger than one year of age is eight weeks. However, the interval may be shortened to four weeks.<sup>(1)</sup></li> </ul>							

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For children 2 months up to and including 11 months of age, the third dose should be given in the second year of life (12 months of age or older)<sup>(3,4)</sup>, and at least 8 weeks from second dose.<sup>(1)</sup></li> <li>The minimum interval between doses for children receiving immunization after 12 months of age is eight weeks.<sup>(1)</sup></li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For individuals that belong to a population that puts them at <a href="#">higher risk of IPV</a>, the series should be completed with Pneu-C20, following the appropriate number of doses and intervals for Pneu-C20.<sup>(3,4)</sup></li> <li>An individual who does not belong to a population that puts them at <a href="#">a higher risk of IPD</a> and who previously completed a pneumococcal conjugate vaccine series is considered up to date and is not eligible for any additional doses.<sup>(4)</sup></li> <li>Children who are eligible for Pneu-C20 may receive Pneu-C15 in the event Pneu-C20 supply is not available. Once Pneu-C20 supply is available, eligible children can receive Pneu-C20 following that vaccine's schedule to complete their pneumococcal series. Previous doses will be counted, and the series will not be restarted. <sup>(4)</sup></li> </ul>
<p><b>High-risk populations</b></p>	<p>Children and adults who belong to one or more of the populations listed below may be at a higher risk for IPD and should receive Pneu-C20 vaccine instead of Pneu-C15.<sup>(3,4)</sup></p> <p><i>Populations with sustained high rates of IPD:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residents of continuing care homes and senior supportive living accommodations</li> <li>First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples, regardless of where they live</li> </ul> <p><i>Individuals with the following medical conditions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Asplenia/hyposplenism (functional or anatomic)<sup>(3,5)</sup> <a href="#">See Special Situations for Immunization – Immunization of Specific Populations</a></li> <li>Chronic cardiac disease (including congenital heart disease and cyanotic heart disease).<sup>(3,5)</sup></li> <li>Chronic cerebral spinal fluid (CSF) leak.<sup>(3,5)</sup></li> <li>Chronic liver disease (including biliary atresia, fatty liver, hepatitis B and C and hepatic cirrhosis due to any cause).<sup>(3,5)</sup></li> <li>Chronic neurologic condition that may impair clearance of oral secretions.<sup>(3,5)</sup></li> <li>Chronic pulmonary disease (including asthma requiring medical treatment within the last 12 months regardless of whether they are on high dose steroids). <sup>(3,5)</sup></li> <li>Chronic renal disease, including nephrotic syndrome, on dialysis, or with renal transplant.<sup>(3,5)</sup></li> <li>Cochlear implants (candidates and recipients).<sup>(3,5)</sup></li> <li>Congenital immunodeficiencies involving any part of the immune system, including B-lymphocyte (humoral) immunity, T-lymphocyte (cell) mediated immunity, complement system (properdin or factor D deficiencies) or phagocytic functions.<sup>(3,5)</sup></li> <li>Diabetes mellitus.<sup>(3,5)</sup></li> <li>Hematopoietic stem cell transplant (HSCT) and/or CAR T-cell therapy recipients.<sup>(3,5)</sup> See - <a href="#">Immunization for Child Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant Recipients</a> or <a href="#">Immunization for Adult Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant Recipients</a>.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HIV infection.<sup>(3,5)</sup></li> <li>• Immunosuppressive therapy including:<sup>(3-5)</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ long-term use of corticosteroids,</li> <li>○ chemotherapy (undergoing or anticipating),</li> <li>○ radiation therapy (undergoing or anticipating),</li> <li>○ post-organ transplant therapy,</li> <li>○ biologic and non-biologic immunosuppressive therapies for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ inflammatory arthropathies, e.g., systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), rheumatoid or juvenile arthritis,</li> <li>▪ inflammatory dermatological conditions, e.g., psoriasis, severe atopic dermatitis and eczema, and</li> <li>▪ inflammatory bowel disease, e.g., Crohn’s disease, ulcerative colitis</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> Individuals prescribed eculizumab (Soliris®) or other complement C5 inhibitors are at increased risk of serious infections, especially with encapsulated bacteria, such as <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>;<sup>(6)</sup> therefore, they should receive Pneu-C20 at least two weeks before receiving the first doses of complement C5 inhibitors, if possible.<sup>(4)</sup></p> <p>For additional information see: <a href="#">Immunization of Specific Populations</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Malignant hematologic disorders (affecting the bone marrow or lymphatic system) including leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin’s disease and multiple myeloma.<sup>(3,5)</sup></li> <li>• Malignant solid organ tumors either currently or within past 5 years..<sup>(3,5)</sup></li> <li>• Sickle-cell disease and other hemoglobinopathies.<sup>(3,5)</sup></li> <li>• Solid organ or islet transplant (SOT) candidates and recipients.<sup>(3,5)</sup> See <a href="#">Immunization for Children Expecting Solid Organ Transplant before 18 Months of Age (Accelerated)</a> and <a href="#">Immunization for Children Expecting Solid Organ Transplant at 18 Months of Age or Older (Catch-up Schedule)</a> or <a href="#">Immunization for Adult Solid Organ Transplant Candidates and Recipients</a>.</li> </ul> <p><i>Individuals who:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have an alcohol use disorder<sup>(5)</sup></li> <li>• Use illicit drugs<sup>(5)</sup></li> <li>• Smoke<sup>(5)</sup> or vape</li> <li>• Have poor indoor air quality in the home (including, but not limited to, second-hand smoke, wood fired stoves)</li> <li>• Are experiencing houselessness<sup>(3,5)</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Definition: At the time of immunization assessment, the individual did not have an address or home (apartment, townhouse, etc.). This would include people staying in shelters, cars, etc.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Contraindications</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History of a severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) to any component of the vaccine or any diphtheria toxoid-containing vaccine.<sup>(1)</sup></li> </ul>
<b>Precautions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pneu-C15 will not protect against <i>S. pneumoniae</i> serotypes not included in the vaccine.<sup>(1)</sup></li> </ul>
<b>Program notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• July 1, 2024 – Introduced into routine program for children replacing Pneu-C13.</li> </ul>

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## References

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3. National Advisory Committee on Immunization. Recommendations for public health programs on the use of pneumococcal vaccines in children, including the use of 15-valent and 20-valent conjugate vaccines [Internet]. 2024. Available from: <https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/phac-aspc/documents/services/publications/vaccines-immunization/national-advisory-committee-immunization-recommendations-public-health-programs-use-pneumococcal-vaccines-children-including-use-15-valent-20-valent-conjugate-vaccines/naci-statement-2024-03-11.pdf>
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5. National Advisory Committee on Immunization. Public health level recommendations on the use of pneumococcal vaccines in adults, including the use of 15 valent and 20 valent conjugate vaccines [Internet]. 2023. Available from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/immunization/national-advisory-committee-on-immunization-naci/public-health-level-recommendations-use-pneumococcal-vaccines-adults-including-use-15-valent-20-valent-conjugate-vaccines.html>
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