



Frequently Asked Questions

Pneumonia Vaccination

Why should I get vaccinated?

Pneumococcal infection causes approximately 40,000 deaths annually in the United States. It is a leading cause of pneumonia, bacteremia, meningitis and otitis media. Persons with certain chronic conditions are at increased risk of developing pneumococcal infection.

Who should get a pneumonia shot?

One Time: Everyone over the age of 65.

Two Times: Anyone who is under 65 and medically qualifies (see indications below) and again one time over the age of 65.

At times, a health care provider may determine an additional vaccination is needed.

Age: At MVNA clinics only clients ages 19 and up are vaccinated who medically qualify:

1. Heart disease
2. Lung disease
3. Diabetes mellitus
4. Alcoholism
5. Liver disease
6. Cerebral spinal fluid leakage
7. Abnormal function or removal of spleen
8. Hodgkin's disease
9. Kidney failure or Nephritic syndrome
10. Organ or bone marrow transplantation
11. HIV/Aids
12. Leukemia or lymphoma
13. Generalized malignancy, multiple myeloma
14. Receiving medication or radiation treatment that affects your immune system

Will I get pneumonia from the pneumonia shot?

No, pneumonia vaccine is created from inactivated viruses that are not contagious.

Can a pregnant or breastfeeding woman receive a pneumonia vaccination?

No, not at an MVNA clinic. Talk to your health care provider.

When is the best time to get vaccinated?

The pneumonia vaccination is not a seasonal vaccination; it can be given any time of year.

What will the pneumonia vaccination protect me from?

This vaccine is made up of the 23 most prevalent pneumococcal types, including the six types that most frequently cause invasive drug-resistant pneumococcal infections.

What kind of side effects does the vaccination have?

The most common side effects are soreness, redness, warmth and swelling at the site and/or a fever below 102°.