

Pneumococcal Vaccination for Solid Organ Transplant Recipients

Vaccination strategies against pneumococcal infections are recommended by **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** for all solid organ transplant recipients.

Dangers of pneumococcal diseases

- Infections with the bacterium *Streptococcus pneumoniae* can cause life-threatening diseases, including:
 - **Pneumonia (lung infection)**
 - **Bloodstream infections**
 - **Meningitis (infection of the brain)**
- Pneumococcal diseases can be much more severe in transplant recipients.
- Pneumococcal diseases are **the 2nd most common cause of vaccine preventable death in the US.**

How can you or your loved one get protected?

- Transplant recipients should get the **pneumococcal vaccine (PCV13) per routine and catch up schedules.**
- Transplant recipients **over 2 years of age** should also get an additional **pneumococcal vaccine (PPSV23)** for extra protection.
- Your child may need both PCV13 and PPSV23 vaccines.
- **Bring the attached page to your primary care physician to make sure your child is up to date.**

