

Vaccine ID:

Name:

Pneumococcal (PCV13)

Pathogen:

The bacterium *Streptococcus pneumoniae*

Class:

Subunit

Produced from:

Bacterial culture media

Inactivation:

Isolated pure polysaccharides

Adjuvants:

125-565 micrograms of aluminum salts

Schedule:

Immunization at 2 months. Boosts at 4, 6 & 12-15 months

Contains:

31 micrograms of purified pneumococcal capsular polysaccharides conjugated to 34 micrograms of non-toxic protein plus buffer & emulsifier.



Approval date:

The first pneumococcal vaccines were not conjugated, i.e., contained only the polysaccharides of the bacterium. These vaccines were found to be effective in adults and generally were less effective in children.

In 2000, a conjugate vaccine was introduced, granting effective immunity to all age group. Ten years later, in 2010, six additional strains were added to the vaccine for a total of 13 (PCV13).