

MENINGITIS VACCINATION

What should I know?

- According to the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD), as of 2012, approximately 58,000 Cochlear Implant (CI) devices have been implanted in adults in the US.
- Meningitis is an infection of the fluid that surrounds the brain and spinal cord. There are two main types of meningitis: viral and bacterial. Pneumococcal Meningitis is a type of bacterial meningitis that has been reported in individuals with CIs.
- The bacteria *Streptococcus pneumoniae* (pneumococcus) causes most cases of the meningitis in people with cochlear implants.
 - Due to their increased risk, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends pneumococcal vaccination for children and adults *who have or are candidates* for cochlear implants.

Pneumococcal Recommendations

- The CDC has issued Pneumococcal Vaccination recommendations for adults with Cochlear Implants. These recommendations can be viewed in detail on the CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/mening/hcp/dis-cochlear-gen.html>
 - Adult patients (≥19 years of age) who are candidates for a cochlear implant and those who have received a cochlear implant should be given a single dose of PCV13 followed by a PPSV23 at least 8 weeks later.
 - A second dose of PPSV23 is recommended for those 65 years of age and older.
 - Adults who previously have received ≥1 doses of PPSV23 should be given a PCV13 dose ≥ 1 year after the last PPSV23 dose was received.
 - Vaccination schedule should be completed at least 2 weeks prior to surgery.