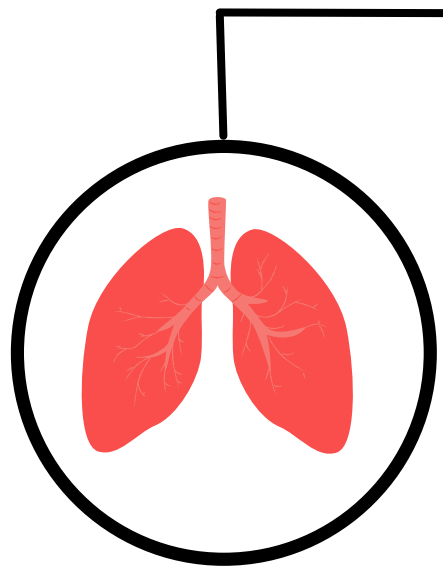


PNEUMOCOCCAL

[noo-muh-KOK-uhl]

DISEASE

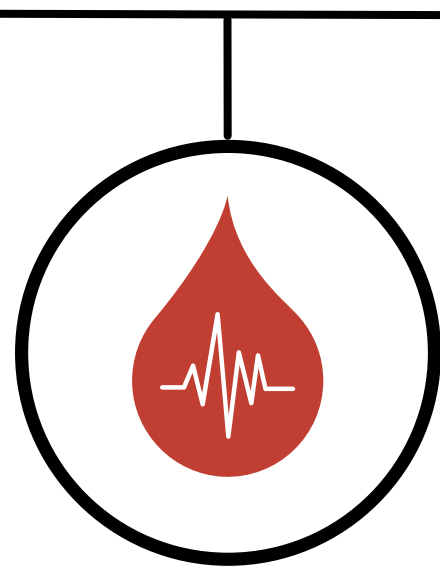
: Any infection caused by bacteria called *Streptococcus Pneumoniae* (*pneumococcus*).



Pneumonia

A lung infection

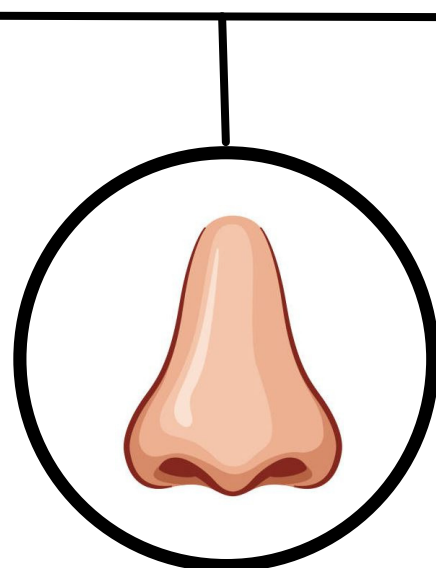
- Fever
- Chills
- Cough
- Rapid breathing
- Chest pain



Bacteremia

A blood infection

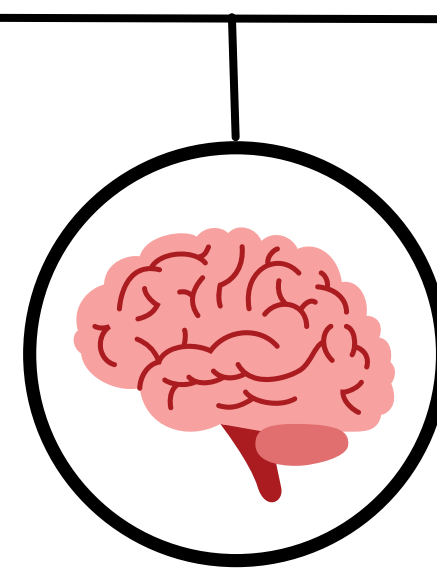
- Fever
- Chills
- Low alertness



Sinusitis

A sinus infection

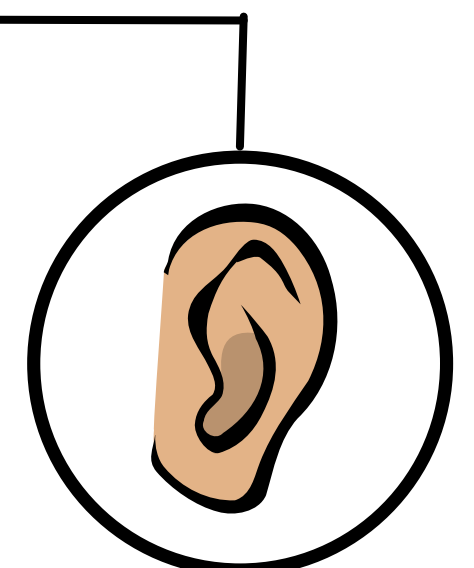
- Headache
- Stuffy nose
- Runny nose
- Facial pressure
- Loss of smell
- postnasal drip



Meningitis

The lining of the brain and spinal cord infection

- Stiff neck
- Fever
- Headache
- Confusion
- Photophobia (sensitive to light)



Otitis Media

A middle ear infection

- Ear Pain
- Swollen ear
- Fever
- Sleepiness

Symptoms of pneumococcal infection depend on the part of the body affected. Symptoms can include fever, cough, shortness of breath, chest pain, stiff neck, confusion, increased sensitivity to light, joint pain, chills, ear pain, sleeplessness, and irritability. In severe cases, pneumococcal disease can cause hearing loss, brain damage, or death.

Vaccines are the best way to prevent pneumococcal disease

There are two kinds of pneumococcal vaccines available in the United States:

- Pneumococcal conjugate vaccines (PCV13, PCV15, or PCV20) protects against 13 of the approximately 90 types of pneumococcal bacteria that can cause pneumococcal disease, including pneumonia, meningitis, and bacteremia.
- Pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV23) protects against 23 types of pneumococcal bacteria

Helpful terms:

Conjugate: A type of vaccine that joins a protein to an antigen in order to improve the protection the vaccine provides

Polysaccharide: A type of vaccine that is composed of long chains of sugar molecules that resemble the surface of certain types of bacteria in order to help the immune system mount a response

If you get pneumococcal vaccines for the first time at 65 or older, you will need two shots, one year apart.

If you had one already before you were 65, you may now need one or two additional shots.

