

Vaccine in short for the **Pneumococcal vaccine**

What is this vaccine for?

This vaccine protects your child against **15 different types of pneumococcal bacteria**. These bacteria can cause inflammation, such as inflammation of the membrane around the brain (meningitis), pneumonia, blood poisoning or middle ear infection.

An infection with a pneumococcal bacterium is serious and can be fatal.

How does this vaccine work?



After vaccination, your child's body recognises the 15 pneumococcal bacteria.

If your child later comes into contact with these bacteria, their body can quickly produce antibodies that destroy these bacteria. **As a result, your child will either not become ill or will become much less ill.**

When will my child receive this vaccine?



Your child receives this vaccination **3 times**. In the National Immunisation Programme, this is when your child is 3 months, 5 months and 12 months old. Your child will also receive the DKTP-Hib-HepB vaccination at the same time, and possibly the rotavirus vaccination.

Your child may receive an adjusted schedule. Always follow your child's schedule.



The injection is given in the upper leg or upper arm.

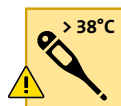
This vaccination is part of the **National Immunisation Programme**. This is a government programme designed to protect people against infectious diseases. Vaccinations that are part of the National Immunisation Programme are free of charge.

What should I do if my child has not received the vaccination?



If your child has **missed** the appointment for the vaccination, make a new appointment as soon as possible.

Most important warnings



If your child has a **fever** before receiving the vaccination, your child may become even more unwell. The RIVM advises you to make a new appointment for the vaccination if your child has a fever above 38.5°C.



If your child has a **mild infection**, such as a cold, discuss with your doctor whether you should make a new appointment for the vaccination.

It is important that your child receives all 3 vaccinations. Otherwise your child will not be sufficiently protected and may still become ill. This is especially important for children under 5 years of age, as they are at higher risk of pneumococcal infection.

Most important side effects

As with other vaccines, your child may experience side effects. This is because the vaccine activates your child's immune system. The immune system provides protection against pneumococcal disease.

Approximately 1 in 10 children up to 2 years of age may experience:

- Fever.
- Sensitivity and becoming easily upset.
- Drowsiness.
- Pain, redness or swelling at the injection site.
- Reduced appetite.
- A hardened area at the injection site.
- Sleepiness.

All listed side effects usually last 1 or 2 days.

More information

If you have any further questions or concerns about vaccinating your child, discuss them with the child health doctor, your doctor or a pharmacist.

For the official package leaflet, see ema.europa.eu. For more information, you can also visit apotheek.nl, thuisarts.nl or rijksvaccinatieprogramma.nl/en. If you would like to report a side effect, or learn more about side effects, you can do so via lareb.nl/en.