***Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine***

**65 + years old**

Patient Information Leaflet: <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/files/pil.1061.pdf>

*or Pneumovax*

Patient Information Leaflet: <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/files/pil.9692.pdf>

**Important information about your vaccination**

Before you have your Vaccination/s please read carefully prior to your immunisation and inform the nurse if you answer YES to any of the questions. Thank you.

* Are you feeling unwell / unfit today?
* Are you suffering from a high temperature/fever
* Are you on any medication?
* Do you have a lowered immune system for any reason i.e. medication / disease / Cancer, Leukaemia, Hodgkins?
* Have you had a splenectomy?
* Are you HIV +?
* Are you on high dose oral steroids?
* Have you had any biological therapy (eg anti-TNF therapy) in the last 12 months?
* Have you had any other vaccination in the last 4 weeks?
* Have you ever had any reactions to any previous vaccinations?
* Have you ever fainted after an injection?
* Have you ever suffered from Guillain-Barre syndrome?
* Are you pregnant or trying for a baby?
* Are you breastfeeding?
* Are you sexually active and is there a chance you could be pregnant? **Certain vaccines and antimalarials maybe contraindicated or should not be used in pregnancy.**

Do you have any allergies?

**General side effects you can expect to experience after the pneumonia vaccination**

* Some people will develop slight tenderness, redness and sometimes swelling at the site of the injection.
* A small number may experience slight fever, headache, general aching and malaise approximately 24 hours after the vaccination, lasting about 24 hours.
* You are advised to take regular analgesia to reduce your temperature (e.g. paracetamol if this is suitable for you) and to drink plenty of non-alcoholic fluids.
* A cold compress applied to the site of the injection may relieve the discomfort.
* In extremely rare circumstances, a person can have an immediate and sometimes severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis).

**COVID-19 If you do not feel better and your fever does not subside after 1-2 days following the vaccination please seek advice from your GP or Practice Nurse. If you also have developed a loss of taste or smell and/or a persistent cough you need to get tested for Covid-19** [**https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus**](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)