

# Pneumococcal Immunization Resource Kit

## Patient Article Template # 2: Worried about Pandemic H1N1 Influenza? Pneumococcal Immunizations Prevent Serious Flu Complications!

Pneumococcal vaccines prevent a common complication of the seasonal flu and Pandemic H1N1 Influenza - pneumococcal infections. So, getting a pneumococcal vaccine now is a great way to protect yourself from serious problems that can be caused by the seasonal flu or Pandemic H1N1 Influenza.

### **Pneumococcal vaccines are recommended for:**

- Children younger than five years of age.
- Adults older than 65 years of age.
- Those with a long-term medical condition such as diabetes; chronic lung disease; cirrhosis; alcoholism; and heart, kidney or liver disease.
- Those with Hodgkin's disease, lymphoma, leukemia, HIV infection, or AIDS.
- Individuals on long-term steroids, certain cancer drugs, or radiation therapy.
- People living in nursing homes or other long-term care homes.
- Adults over age 19 who smoke and/or have asthma.

### ***HEALTH PLAN ADDS INFORMATION ABOUT COVERAGE FOR PNEUMOCOCCAL VACCINATIONS HERE***

Those without insurance may call the Los Angeles County Information Line at 2-1-1 or visit [www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip) to find reduced-cost or no-cost vaccine providers.

To learn more, visit the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Immunization Program's website at [www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip).

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To download additional resources for promoting pneumococcal immunizations, visit [www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip).

Questions about the "Pneumococcal Immunization Resource Kit" may be directed to Julia Heinzerling, M.P.H. at [jheinzerling@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:jheinzerling@ph.lacounty.gov) or 213-351-7479.

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