



Introducing Prevenar 13[®]

Available 1st July 2011- Information for parents

What is Prevenar 13[®]?

Prevenar 13[®] is a new vaccine that includes six additional serotypes compared to Prevenar 7[®], which only covers seven serotypes. Babies currently get the vaccine at 2, 4 and 6 months of age to protect them against pneumococcal disease. It will replace Prevenar 7[®].

What is pneumococcal disease?

Pneumococcal disease is a bacterial infection that can cause septicaemia (blood poisoning), pneumonia (inflammation of the lungs), meningitis (inflammation of brain lining) or ear infections. Pneumococcal disease is more common in the very young and the elderly.

The disease can be spread by respiratory droplets and through close personal contact.

Why is it important for my child to get vaccinated with Prevenar 13[®]?

Prevenar 13[®] will protect your child from the effects of pneumococcal disease by boosting their immunity against the disease.

Who is eligible for Prevenar 13[®]?

Infants are eligible for Prevenar 13[®] at 2, 4 and 6 months of age. Children who are medically at risk are eligible for a fourth dose at 12 months of age.

Where can my child get Prevenar 13[®]?

Prevenar 13[®] will be available at your usual immunisation service provider. If you do not

have a usual provider, you can access it through the community health immunisation clinics, general practice or the local council immunisation clinics in metropolitan areas.

What are the possible side effects of the Prevenar 13[®] vaccine?

Most side effects from the vaccination are minor and resolve quickly. Common side effects include mild temperature, pain, redness and swelling at the injection site and feeling unwell. Your child may also be irritable and have a decreased appetite after the vaccination.

What can I do if my child has some side effects after having the Prevenar 13[®] vaccine?

Your GP/nurse will provide information on expected side effects and what you can do to make your child more comfortable.

- If the injection site becomes red and/or swollen apply a cool damp cloth.
- There may be some pain, fever, headache or tiredness. For headache and arm discomfort, take paracetamol as per manufacturer's recommendations. If fever persists, consult your doctor.
- Immediately seek medical advice if there is a reaction that you think is serious or unexpected.
- You can also report reactions following vaccination to the WA Vaccine Safety Surveillance (WAVSS) system;
On-line: www.wavss.health.wa.gov.au
Phone: (08) 9321 1312
Fax: (08) 9426 9408
E-mail: wavss@health.wa.gov.au

