



March 11, 2022

Dear Adult Safety Net (ASN) Provider,

On Oct. 20, 2021, Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted unanimously to adopt two adult pneumococcal recommendations, PCV15 and PCV20, to help reduce the burden of disease from *Streptococcus pneumoniae*. These recommendations have been adopted by the director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and will be published in [CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report \(MMWR\)](#).

The new adult pneumococcal recommendations offer an opportunity to use either of these newly approved vaccines, as described:

- **Age-based recommendation:** Adults 65 years of age and older who have not previously received a pneumococcal conjugate vaccine or whose previous vaccination history is unknown should receive a pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (either PCV20 or PCV15). If PCV15 is used, this should be followed by a dose of PPSV23.
- **Risk-based recommendation:** Adults 19 years of age and older with certain underlying medical conditions or other risk factors* who have not previously received a pneumococcal conjugate vaccine or whose previous vaccination history is unknown should receive a pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (either PCV20 or PCV15). If PCV15 is used, this should be followed by a dose of PPSV23.

Based on these updated recommendations by ACIP and the CDC, the pneumococcal conjugate vaccine PCV13 (Pevnar13) will no longer be offered under the Adult Safety Net (ASN) Program as of March 3rd, 2022. ASN Program providers will instead see the pneumococcal conjugate vaccine PCV20 (Pevnar20) to order in the Vaccine Allocation and Ordering System (VAOS) for adults. PCV20 is a one-dose pneumococcal conjugate vaccine that does not require an additional PPSV23 pneumococcal dose for adults 65 years and older.

ASN Program providers should continue to administer their existing PCV13 vaccine in their inventory. Once the current inventory of PCV13 is near depletion, the provider should then place an order for PCV20.

For more information on vaccine recommendations, precautions, and contraindications, please visit the [CDC pneumococcal website](#). For questions regarding PCV20, providers may contact their Responsible Entity (RE). Thank you for your participation in the ASN Program.

Sincerely,

Antonio Aragon
DSHS Immunization Director