

**Day Care Immunization Fact Sheet for Parents**  
**New Immunization Requirement for Children in Day Care Centers**

Dear Parents:

After September 1, 2008, **pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV)** will be required for all children in licensed day care centers in Wisconsin. The following fact sheet should help answer your questions about the requirement and how to comply.

Thank you.

**1. What is this the new requirement?**

The Wisconsin Student Immunization Law will require pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV) for children in day care centers beginning on September 1, 2008:

**2. Why is this requirement being made?**

PCV has been shown to be highly effective in reducing diseases caused by the pneumococcus bacteria, [for example, pneumonia, bacteremia, meningitis and acute otitis media (middle ear infection)], among children less than 5 years of age. In 2000, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended this vaccine for all children 2-23 months of age, and for children 24-59 months of age who attend day care centers.

**3. What do parents need to do?**

You need to provide the dates your child received PCV vaccine to your child's day care center. Use the enclosed Day Care Immunization Record and report the dates in the highlighted boxes. It is very likely that your child has already received PCV. Also, be sure to add the PCV dates to the permanent immunization record you keep for your child at home. In the future, s/he may need to give these dates to another day care center.

**4. Are there exceptions to the PCV requirement?**

Yes, there are two:

- Children who begin the PCV series at 12 to 23 months of age are only required to receive 2 doses of PCV
- Children who receive the first dose of PCV at 24 months of age or after do not need any more doses of PCV

**5. Where can I get PCV for my child?**

This vaccine is available from your child's doctor, clinic or Local Health Department. Please have your child immunized well in advance of September 2008 to avoid the late summer rush at doctor's offices and immunization clinics.

**6. What if I do not want my child to get PCV?**

You may sign the religious or personal conviction waiver on the enclosed Day Care Immunization Record. A medical waiver is also available and must be signed by a physician.