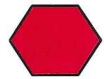


# Pneumococcal Disease

## Invasive Pneumococcal Disease



### Clinical Description:

Pneumococcal infections are caused by *Streptococcus pneumoniae* bacteria. These infections can include pneumonia, meningitis, bacteremia, as well as sinus and ear infections. Symptoms can include chills, fever, headache, earache, pain in the chest, and cough. Only cases of invasive pneumococcal disease are reportable. Invasive means the bacteria was isolated from blood, spinal fluid, joint fluid, or other normally sterile sites.

### Incubation Period:

The incubation period is normally 1 - 3 days.

### Mode of Transmission:

Transmission occurs primarily through contact with nose or throat secretions from an infected person. It is not spread by casual contact or by simply breathing the air around an infected person.

### Period of Communicability:

A person can spread the bacteria as long as the organism is in the respiratory tract or until 24 hours after the initiation of antibiotic therapy.

### Exclusion/Reporting:

There are no specific exclusion provisions found in Indiana communicable disease laws or rules for pneumococcal disease. For information on laws and rules regarding pneumococcal disease, see the ISDH Communicable Disease Reporting Rule (410 IAC 1-2.3-99) at [http://www.in.gov/isdh/files/comm\\_dis\\_rule\(1\).pdf](http://www.in.gov/isdh/files/comm_dis_rule(1).pdf).

### Prevention/Care:

- Vaccinate all children with the 13-valent vaccine (PCV13) at 2, 4, and 6 months with a booster at 12 - 15 months according to the routine childhood vaccination schedule.
- Vaccinate high-risk children (sickle cell anemia, HIV infection, chronic lung or heart disease) over the age of 2 years with the childhood PCV13 (given through 71 months of age) or a 23-valent polysaccharide pneumococcal vaccine (PPSV23).
- Enforce hand washing and disposal of used tissues.

### Outbreaks:

According to the ISDH Communicable Disease Reporting Rule (410 IAC 1-2.3) the definition of an outbreak means cases of disease occurring in a community, region, or particular population at a rate in excess of that which is normally expected. The local health department should be notified of suspected and/or documented cases of pneumococcal disease if the number of cases is in excess of what is normally experienced in your school or occur with a common connection (same class, sports team, etc.). For additional information and recommendations regarding the preparation for, and the management of an outbreak situation in a school setting, see Appendix A, "Managing an Infectious Disease Outbreak In a School Setting."

**Other Resources:**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/pneumo/default.htm>

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/pneumo/dis-faqs.htm>

Indiana State Department of Health Quick Facts Page (found on disease/condition page):

<http://bit.ly/12JLfD>