

- *Streptococcus pneumoniae* (pneumococcus) causes over 500,000 cases of pneumonia and over 40,000 cases of invasive pneumococcal disease every year in the United States, which is concerning because, despite appropriate antimicrobial treatment, mortality rates for invasive pneumococcal disease are high, especially in the elderly population.
- We conducted a descriptive, retrospective study in a national cohort of Veterans Affairs patients aged 50 years and older with cultures from any collection site positive for *S. pneumoniae* over a 10 year study period.
- Outpatient pneumococcal disease incidence decreased significantly by 3.5% per year, from 5.8 infections per 100,000 clinic visits in 2002 to 2.6 infections per 100,000 clinic visits in 2011. Inpatient incidence increased non-significantly by 0.2% per year, from 262.3 infections per 100,000 admissions in 2002 to 328.1 infections per 100,000 admissions in 2011.
- Among inpatients with serious infections, chronic disease risk factors for pneumococcal disease increased significantly over the study period, including respiratory disease, diabetes, and renal failure.

This summary slide represents the opinions of the authors. This study was sponsored, in part, by an Advancing Science through Pfizer Initiated Research (ASPIRE) grant from Pfizer Inc. For a full list of acknowledgments and conflicts of interest for all authors of this article, please see the full text online. Copyright © The Author(s) 2014. Creative Commons Attribution Noncommercial License (CC BY-NC).