

- Two types of vaccine are available for the prevention of pneumococcal diseases caused by specific *Streptococcus pneumoniae* serotypes; the pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPV23) and the pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV7, PCV10, and PCV13).
- The age groups and risk groups recommended for pneumococcal vaccination vary greatly between countries within Europe, as well as which vaccine (PPV23 versus PCV) should be administered.
- Differences in pneumococcal immunization recommendations can impact the rates of immunization between countries.
- Age-based immunization programs are easier to implement and can consequently result in higher vaccine uptake than risk-based programs, which require identification of individuals with specific diseases.
- Clarifying or simplifying pneumococcal vaccination recommendations and improving their dissemination could help to increase pneumococcal vaccine uptake, which in turn could improve vaccine coverage and decrease the high burden of pneumococcal diseases in adults, both through a direct effect of the vaccine and herd effect in unvaccinated individuals.

This summary slide represents the opinions of the authors. Sponsorship for the article processing charges for this study was funded by Pfizer, Paris, France. Medical writing assistance for this study was provided by Jackie van Bueren (Neostar Communications Ltd, Oxford, UK; funded by Pfizer, Paris, France). 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 2014. Creative Commons Attribution Noncommercial License (CC BY-NC).