

Pneumococcal Immunization Program Update:

Transition to Pneu-C-21 Vaccine (Capvaxive®) for Adults 65 Years and Older

To York Region health care professionals as of August 12, 2026

The Ministry of Health has announced that, effective August 17, 2026, Ontario's publicly funded pneumococcal immunization program for adults 65 years of age and older will transition from the pneumococcal 20-valent conjugate vaccine, Prevnar 20™ to the pneumococcal 21-valent conjugate vaccine, Capvaxive®. This change is intended to provide broader protection against invasive pneumococcal disease (IPD) among adults 65 years of age and older.

There are otherwise no changes to the eligibility criteria for Ontario's publicly funded pneumococcal immunization programs. Individuals who are currently eligible for publicly funded pneumococcal vaccines will remain eligible following the product transition.

PUBLICLY FUNDED PNEUMOCOCCAL VACCINES (as of August 17, 2026)

Vaccine Name	Abbreviation	Eligible Age Groups
Capvaxive® *NEW*	Pneu-C-21 *NEW*	Adults 65 years of age and older
Vaxneuvance®	Pneu-C-15	Children 6 weeks to 4 years of age at low risk for IPD
Prevnar 20™	Pneu-C-20	Individuals 6 weeks to 64 years of age at high risk* for IPD

*Refer to Health Care Provider Fact Sheets for a list of medical and non-medical conditions that increase an individual's risk of IPD.

HEALTH CARE PROVIDER ACTION

- Capvaxive® is now available to order from York Region Public Health through the [Publicly Funded Vaccine Order Form](#). Submit your completed order form and refrigerator temperature log(s) by email to VaccineInventory@york.ca or fax to 905-830-0578
- Effective August 17, 2026, offer Capvaxive® to adults 65 years of age and older instead of Prevnar 20™. Re-vaccination is **not** part of the product transition. Individuals who have previously received a publicly funded dose of Pneumovax®23 or Prevnar 20™ at age 65 years and older are **not** eligible for re-vaccination with Capvaxive®
- Continue to use Vaxneuvance® for children 6 weeks to 4 years of age who are at low risk for IPD
- Continue to use Prevnar 20™ for individuals 6 weeks to 64 years of age who are at high risk* for IPD

REFERENCES

- Office of Chief Medical Officer of Health: Letter to Health Care Providers
- [Health Care Provider Fact Sheet: Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccines for Pediatrics](#)
- [Health Care Provider Fact Sheet: Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccines for Adults](#)
- [Patient Pneumococcal Vaccine Program Fact Sheet](#)
- [Vaccine Resources For Professionals | Ontario.ca](#)

CONTACT US

For more information on the pneumococcal vaccine product transition including vaccine ordering, please contact our Vaccine Inventory Program via:

- Email: VaccineInventory@york.ca
- Phone: 1-877-464-9675 ext. 74033
- Website: york.ca/VaccineInventory

Register for ongoing updates from York Region Public Health

York Region Public Health connects with health professionals in two main ways: [Time sensitive email alerts](#) (issued as needed) with critical notifications and recommendations for clinical management, and [Public Health Matters](#), a monthly e-bulletin for non-urgent updates.

If you received this message but have not subscribed to both, [we encourage you to register](#).

Signing up ensures you receive critical alerts when they matter most, as well as regular updates to support your practice!