

Invitation for vaccination against pneumococcal bacteria

Patient name
Patient address
Patient postcode and city

Date

Dear Sir/Madam,

This letter is your invitation to get the pneumococcal vaccination. Pneumococci are bacteria that can cause you to become very ill. You are receiving this invitation because you were born between 1 January 1948 and 31 December 1952.

What does the vaccination do?

The vaccination reduces the risk that you will become ill from pneumococci. You will be less likely to get pneumonia. The effect of the vaccination will last for 5 years.

When should you call your doctor?

- If you have 1 or more of these symptoms on the day that you are scheduled to be vaccinated: nasal cold, sore throat, sneezing, coughing, shortness of breath, sudden loss of smell or taste, elevated temperature higher than 37.5 degrees.
- If you are scheduled to receive a COVID-19 vaccination within 7 days before or within 7 days after the pneumococcal vaccination.
- If you know you are allergic to this vaccination.
- If you received this vaccination less than 2 years ago, for example in hospital.
- If you are currently receiving chemotherapy or have had chemotherapy in the last 3 months.
- If you are unable to come to the doctor's practice on the day specified in this letter.

Are there any side-effects?

- Your arm may be sensitive and painful after the injection. The injection site may be red and puffy. This usually goes away within 1 or 2 days.
- You may feel unwell for a few days after the vaccination, and could have muscle aches and fever. Your body is building up resistance to the pneumococcal bacteria.

Your invitation

You will get the vaccination for free. You can come and get your pneumococcal vaccination at this date and time:

Date:
Time:
Location:

- Take this letter along with you to the appointment.
- You will get the injection in your upper arm, so wear clothes that make it easy to uncover your upper arm.
- If you also received an invitation for the flu jab on the same day, please bring both letters to the appointment. You will get the flu jab in your other upper arm.

Would you like to know more?

- Read the information on the back of this invitation.
- www.thuisarts.nl/prik-tegen-pneumokokken
- <https://www.rivm.nl/en/pneumococci>

Or contact your GP.

Your GP