

PLEASE POST AND CIRCULATE TO OTHER PHYSICIANS IN YOUR CLINIC / PROGRAM

January 31, 2011

## INVASIVE PNEUMOCOCCAL DISEASE (IPD)

### WINNIPEG INNER CITY IMMUNIZATION OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

There is an increase in invasive pneumococcal disease (IPD) in Winnipeg.

- 98 cases of IPD were reported in Winnipeg in 2010, compared to an annual average of 55 cases over the previous three years.
- The increase appears to be mediated in large part by an increase in the 12F serotype, primarily in the form of septicemia, in unimmunized 30-64 year old inner city adults, including homeless individuals.
- A more gradual increase was seen in the 19A serotype, in populations typically at risk for IPD (the very young and very old).

In response to this increase, **the WRHA Immunization Program is coordinating an outreach pneumococcal polysaccharide immunization campaign in February and March 2011** to reach vulnerable populations in the Point Douglas and Downtown areas.

**We request your assistance to review the PPV23 (polysaccharide vaccine) immunization status of your patients and provide vaccine to those who are eligible and would benefit, with a particular focus on at risk inner city adults.** A factsheet on the vaccine, including eligibility criteria, can be accessed at:

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/fs/ppv23.pdf>

**Eligibility for pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine includes the following:**

- All individuals  $\geq$  65 years of age.
- All residents of a personal care home or a long-term care facility.
- Individuals from 2 to 65 years of age with high risk medical conditions.
- For this outreach campaign, also include individuals who are homeless or who use illicit drugs.

Note that **only one dose of the pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine is recommended for most recipients.** If you do not have access to the Manitoba Immunization Monitoring System (MIMS) to check immunization records, we have arranged for administrative support to be available for look up of an individual's pneumococcal immunization status in MIMS during working hours (8:30 am to 4:30 pm) Monday through Friday during the month of February for this immunization campaign. To access this service call **940-1672**. After the end of the campaign, immunization records from MIMS can be routinely requested through your local WRHA community area office.

A media release on this issue is being issued Feb. 1st. It will be available to view then at:  
[www.wrha.mb.ca/media/releases](http://www.wrha.mb.ca/media/releases).

To provide feedback on these updates, please email: [physicianinfo@wrha.mb.ca](mailto:physicianinfo@wrha.mb.ca)

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