

## SAND abstract No. 171 from the BEACH program 2010–11

### Subject: Influenza and pneumococcal vaccination among general practice patients

**Organisation supporting this study:** CSL Ltd

**Issues:** The proportion of general practice patients who had discussed influenza vaccination with their GP in the past 12 months or pneumococcal vaccination in the past 5 years; who initiated the discussion(s); presence of influenza or pneumococcal infection risk factors; vaccination status; source of vaccine supply; reason(s) that influenza or pneumococcal vaccine was not given in unvaccinated patients.

**Sample:** 100 GPs recorded influenza data for 2,946 patients and pneumococcal data for 2,873 patients; data collection period: 17/08/2010 – 25/10/2010.

**Method:** Detailed in the paper entitled *SAND method 2010–11* at:

<http://sydney.edu.au/medicine/fmrc/publications/sand-abstracts>. **Method for this study:** Risk factors for influenza and pneumococcal infection<sup>1</sup> were supplied on a card.

#### Summary of results

The age and sex distributions of the 2,946 patients who responded to the question about discussion of influenza vaccination and the 2,873 patients who responded about pneumococcal vaccination did not differ from all patients at 2009–10 BEACH encounters.

**Influenza vaccination:** GPs discussed influenza vaccination with 1,268 patients (43.0%, 95% CI: 38.5–47.6) in the previous 12 months. GPs initiated the discussion in most cases (83.6% of 1,236 respondents). Influenza infection risk factors were given for 1,203 patients, and at least one risk factor was present for 87.2%. Multiple responses were allowed. The most common risk factor was being aged 65 years and over (66.3%), followed by chronic heart disease (18.5%), diabetes (13.4%), chronic lung disease (11.6%) and other chronic diseases (11.9%).

Of 1,222 patients who provided vaccination status, 1,116 were vaccinated (91.3%), 105 were not (8.6%), and status was not known for 1 patient. Of 1,080 vaccinated respondents, 81.4% were supplied the vaccine free of charge (i.e. government supplied), for 5.7% the vaccine was PBS subsidised, and for 12.9% it was fully privately funded. Of 100 unvaccinated respondents, 54 gave 'patient objection' as the reason for not being vaccinated, and 20 patients were considered 'not at risk'.

**Pneumococcal vaccination:** GPs discussed pneumococcal vaccination with 823 patients (28.7%, 95% CI: 24.6–32.7) in the previous 5 years. GPs initiated the discussion in most cases (92.5% of 759 respondents). Pneumococcal infection risk factors were given by 802 patients, and at least one risk factor was present for 96.0%. Multiple responses were allowed. The most common risk factor was being aged 65 years and over (81.9%), followed by chronic heart disease (22.1%), diabetes (15.2%), chronic lung disease (12.6%) and other chronic diseases (10.1%).

Of 782 patients who provided vaccination status, 661 were vaccinated (84.5%), 118 were not (15.1%), and status was not known for 3. Of 638 vaccinated respondents, 93.0% were supplied the vaccine free of charge, for 4.6% the vaccine was PBS subsidised, and for 2.5% it was fully privately funded. Of 105 unvaccinated respondents, 59 (56.2%) gave 'patient objection' as the reason for not being vaccinated, and 16 (15.2%) were considered 'not at risk'.

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from National Health and Medical Research Council. Australian Immunisation Handbook 9th Edition 2008

Correspondence to: Clare Bayram, FMRC

Family Medicine Research Centre, University of Sydney. SAND abstract No. 171 from the BEACH program: Influenza and pneumococcal vaccination among general practice patients. Sydney: FMRC University of Sydney, 2011. ISSN 1444-9072

## **Risk factors for influenza and pneumococcal infection**

This card lists the risk factors and indications for influenza and/or pneumococcal vaccination.

Please circle the numbers on the recording form to indicate whether this patient has any of the listed risk factors or indications.

1. ≥65 years of age
2. ≥50 years of age and Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
3. Childhood immunisation schedule
4. Chronic heart disease
5. Chronic lung disease (including emphysema, severe asthma)
6. Diabetes
7. Other chronic disease(s) e.g. chronic renal failure
8. Immune deficiency (e.g. HIV, malignancy)
9. Tobacco smoker
10. Pregnancy
11. Residents of nursing home or other long-term facilities
12. People in contact with high risk patients (e.g. staff of nursing homes)
13. Cerebrospinal fluid leak
14. Asplenia (functional or anatomical)
15. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander 15-49 years with conditions placing them at increased risk of pneumococcal infection

Source: adapted from the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Australian Immunisation Handbook 9th Edition 2008

# PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

The shaded section of the following forms asks questions about **INFLUENZA AND PNEUMOCOCCAL VACCINATION**.  
 You may tear out this page as a guide to completing the following section of forms.

## INSTRUCTIONS

Please answer the following questions for **ALL** of the **next 30 PATIENTS** in the order in which the patients are seen.

Please **DO NOT** select patients to suit the topic being investigated.

## Influenza and pneumococcal vaccination

Please indicate whether, prior to today's visit, you and this patient have **discussed**:

1. **influenza vaccination** in the **past 12 months**; and/or
2. **pneumococcal vaccination** in the **past 5 years**.

This question refers to the discussion irrespective of whether the vaccination was given.

If 'no' to both please **end questions here** for this patient.

## Risk factors for influenza and pneumococcal infection

Please **circle the numbers** to indicate whether this patient has any of the listed risk factors or indications for **influenza** and/or **pneumococcal** vaccination.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. ≥65 years of age  | 9. Tobacco smoker   |
| 2. ≥50 years of age and Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander | 10. Pregnancy   |
| 3. Childhood immunisation schedule                               | 11. Residents of nursing home or other long-term facilities   |
| 4. Chronic heart disease   | 12. People in contact with high risk patients (e.g. staff of nursing homes)   |
| 5. Chronic lung disease (e.g. emphysema, severe asthma)          | 13. Cerebrospinal fluid leak  |
| 6. Diabetes  | 14. Asplenia (functional or anatomical)   |
| 7. Other chronic disease(s) e.g. chronic renal failure           | 15. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander 15-49 years with conditions placing them at increased risk of pneumococcal infection |
| 8. Immune deficiency (e.g. HIV, malignancy)                      |   |

The **risk factors/indications** listed above and on a **card** in the research pack.

## Patients who WERE vaccinated

For patients who **received an influenza and/or pneumococcal vaccination** please indicate for each vaccine whether it was/were **supplied free of charge** to the patient (i.e. under the Government's Immunise Australia Program), **subsidised by PBS** or **fully privately paid (e.g by the patient, employer)**.

## Patients who were NOT vaccinated

For patients who **did not** receive the **influenza and/or pneumococcal vaccination** please indicate the **reasons that the vaccine(s) was/were not given**.

## Initiation of discussion

For each type of vaccination, influenza (Influ) and pneumococcal (Pneum), please indicate **who initiated the discussion**.

## Vaccination status

Please use the tick boxes to indicate whether the patient is **currently vaccinated for influenza** (i.e. within the past 12 months) and/or **pneumococcal** (i.e. within the past 5 years).

Prior to today's visit, have you and this patient discussed: 1. Influenza vaccination <input type="checkbox"/> Yes in the past 12 months? <input type="checkbox"/> No 2. Pneumococcal vaccination in the past 5 years? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If NO to both, end questions	If 'yes' who initiated the discussion(s)? <table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>Influ</b></td> <td><b>Pneum</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>GP</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Patient</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Don't know</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>		<b>Influ</b>	<b>Pneum</b>	GP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Patient	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Please <b>circle number(s)</b> to indicate which infection risk factor(s) the patient has: See key list on card, circle as many as apply <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1.</td><td>2.</td><td>3.</td><td>4.</td><td>5.</td></tr> <tr> <td>6.</td><td>7.</td><td>8.</td><td>9.</td><td>10.</td></tr> <tr> <td>11.</td><td>12.</td><td>13.</td><td>14.</td><td>15.</td></tr> </table> <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	Was the patient vaccinated? <table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>Influ</b></td> <td><b>Pneum</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Don't know</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>		<b>Influ</b>	<b>Pneum</b>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	If patient <b>WAS</b> VACCINATED, how was the vaccine(s) supplied? <table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>Influ</b></td> <td><b>Pneum</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Free to patient</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>(i.e. Govt supplied)</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>PBS subsidised</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fully privately funded</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>		<b>Influ</b>	<b>Pneum</b>	Free to patient	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	(i.e. Govt supplied)			PBS subsidised	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fully privately funded	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	If patient <b>WAS NOT</b> VACCINATED, the reason(s) was: <table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>Influ</b></td> <td><b>Pneum</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Patient not at risk</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Patient objection</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cost to patient</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Patient does not agree with risk assessment</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other reason</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>		<b>Influ</b>	<b>Pneum</b>	Patient not at risk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Patient objection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cost to patient	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Patient does not agree with risk assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other reason	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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