

SAND abstract No. 179 from the BEACH program 2010–11

Subject: Pneumococcal vaccination and pneumonia in older Australian general practice patients

Organisation supporting this study: Pfizer Australia Pty Ltd

Issues: For patients aged 50 years and over: proportion of patients who received pneumococcal vaccine in the previous 5 years; proportion who received a booster vaccine; main reasons for providing pneumococcal vaccine. Proportion of patients diagnosed with pneumonia in the previous 12 months; vaccination status of those diagnosed; impact of pneumonia on daily life.

Sample: This SAND was limited to patients aged 50 years and over. There was a total sample of 1,618 patients aged 50 years and over from 102 GPs; data collection period: 22/02/2011 – 28/03/2011.

Method: Detailed in the paper entitled *SAND method 2010–11* at: <http://sydney.edu.au/medicine/fmrc/publications/sand-abstracts/>.

Summary of results

The SAND questions were divided into two parts: part 1 – pneumococcal vaccine and part 2 – pneumonia. Of 1,618 patients aged 50 years and over in the sample, 1,565 (96.7%) responded to the question on pneumococcal vaccination and 1,513 (93.5%) responded to the question on whether they had been diagnosed with pneumonia in the previous 12 months. The sex distribution of patients in the sample was not significantly different from that of all 2009–10 BEACH encounters, with females accounting for 58.7% (95% CI: 55.0–62.4).

Of 1,565 respondents, 682 (43.6%) received a pneumococcal vaccine in the previous 5 years. Of these, 636 patients (93.3%) had received Pneumovax 23, 12 (1.8%) received an other pneumococcal vaccine and 35 (5.1%) did not know what vaccine was given. Of 651 vaccinated respondents, the pneumococcal vaccination was the first adult vaccine for 42.2% (n = 275), while for 57.8% (n = 376) it was an adult booster vaccination.

The main reasons for receiving pneumococcal vaccination were provided for 624 of the 682 vaccinated patients. Multiple responses were allowed. For 525 patients (84.1%) the main reason was being aged 65 years and over. The presence of conditions predisposing the patient to pneumococcal infection was the reason for 107 (17.2%) and 155 predisposing conditions were recorded. Type 2 diabetes was present in 32.7% of these 107 patients, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease for 19.6%, asthma for 14.0% and non-specified risk factor for 7.5%. For 32 patients (5.1%) being a smoker was a reason for vaccination, while being an Indigenous person aged 50 years and over was a reason for 11 (1.8%) patients.

Of the 1,618 patients aged 50 years and over, 1,513 (93.5%) indicated whether they had been diagnosed with pneumonia in the previous 12 months, 37 (2.5%) of these had been. Of 32 patients who indicated whether they had received a pneumococcal vaccine prior to being diagnosed, 22 (68.8%) had been vaccinated before being diagnosed with pneumonia.

Of 37 patients diagnosed with pneumonia, 33 responded to the question about its impact. Of the 33 respondents, 16 (48.5%) said that pneumonia had impacted moderately on their daily lives, 11 (33.3%) said it impacted severely and 3 (9.1%) said it impacted very severely. Among the 22 patients who had been vaccinated before being diagnosed, 11 (50%) said impact of pneumonia on their daily lives was moderate and for 7 (31.8%) it was severe.

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PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

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

INSTRUCTIONS

For the **next 30 PATIENTS**, ask all who are **aged 50 years and over** the following questions. If the patient is aged less than 50 years please leave the questions blank.

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

Stage of vaccination

Please indicate whether the **pneumococcal vaccine** given to the patient was the first adult vaccine dose received.

PART 2: Pneumonia

Please ask the patient whether they have been **diagnosed with pneumonia in the last 12 months**.

If 'yes' please specify the date (**month and year**) that the **pneumonia was diagnosed**.

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

Impact of pneumonia

Please ask the patient to describe the extent to which pneumonia **impacted on their day to day life**.

Pneumococcal immunisation

Please use the tick boxes to advise whether this patient has had a **pneumococcal immunisation** in the **last 5 years**.

If 'no' please continue to **part 2** of the form.

Main reason(s) for vaccination

In your clinical opinion, please advise the **main reason(s)** that this patient **received the pneumococcal vaccine**.

Please tick all that apply.

Immune status

Please indicate whether the patient was **vaccinated with a pneumococcal vaccine before being diagnosed with pneumonia**.

<p>For patients aged 50+ years: Has a pneumococcal vaccine been given in the past 5 years? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Pneumovax 23 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - other: <i>(please specify)</i> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No → Go to PART 2 BL130B</p>	<p>If 'yes', was this the first adult pneumococcal vaccine the patient received? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (first adult vaccine) <input type="checkbox"/> No (adult booster)</p>	<p>In your clinical opinion, what was/were the main reason/s for receiving the vaccine? <input type="checkbox"/> Aged ≥ 65 years <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander ≥ 50 years <input type="checkbox"/> Conditions predisposing the patient to pneumococcal infection: _____ <i>(please specify)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Smoker <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>(please specify)</i> _____</p>	<p>PART 2: Pneumonia Has the patient been diagnosed with pneumonia in the past 12 months? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No → End questions</p>	<p>Did the patient receive a pneumococcal vaccine before being diagnosed with pneumonia? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p>	<p>To what extent did pneumonia impact on the patient's day to day life? <input type="checkbox"/> Not at all <input type="checkbox"/> Slightly <input type="checkbox"/> Moderately <input type="checkbox"/> Severely <input type="checkbox"/> Very severely</p>
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