ACIP Provisional Recommendations for Use of Pneumococcal Vaccines

Date of ACIP vote: October 22, 2008

Date of posting of provisional recommendations: December 8, 2008

On October 22, 2008, the ACIP voted on new and revised recommendations for the use of 23-valent pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV23) for the prevention of invasive pneumococcal disease. The new provisional recommendations are as follows:

- 1. Recommendation for use of the 23-valent pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV23) among adult cigarette smokers:
 - Adults who smoke cigarettes are at substantially increased risk for invasive pneumococcal disease.
 - The ACIP recommends that cigarette smoking should be added to the list of indications for PPSV23 in adults aged 19 through 64 years.
 - Proposed wording of the revised recommendation: Persons aged 19 through 64 years who smoke cigarettes should receive a single dose of PPSV23 and smoking cessation counseling.
- 2. Recommendation for use of PPSV23 among adults who have asthma:
 - Asthma is an independent risk factor for invasive pneumococcal disease.
 - The ACIP recommends that asthma should be included among the chronic pulmonary diseases (such as COPD and emphysema) that are indications for PPSV23 in adults aged 19 through 64 years.
 - Proposed wording of the revised recommendation: "Persons aged 19 through 64 years who have asthma should receive a single dose of PPSV23."
- 3. Revised recommendation for use of PPSV23 among American Indians and Alaska Natives
 - a. American Indian/Alaska Native children aged 24 through 59 months:
 - Routine use of PPSV23 after PCV7 is not recommended for Alaska Native or American Indian children aged 24 through 59 months. However, in special situations, public health authorities may recommend the use of PPSV23 after PCV7 for Alaska Native or American Indian children aged 24 through 59 months who are living in areas in which risk of invasive pneumococcal disease is increased"
 - b. American Indian/Alaska Native adults:
 - Routine use of PPSV23 is not recommended for Alaska Native or American Indian persons younger than 65 years old unless they have underlying medical conditions that are PPSV23 indications. However, in special situations, public health authorities may recommend PPSV23 for Alaska Natives and American Indians aged 50 through 64 years who are living in areas in which the risk of invasive pneumococcal disease is increased."
- 4. Revised recommendation for revaccination with PPSV23 in high risk children aged <10 years
 - Immunocompromised persons or persons with sickle cell disease or functional or anatomic asplenia are at highest risk for serious pneumoccoccal infection and may have a rapid decline in pneumococcal antibody levels after PPSV23
 - The ACIP recommends a single revaccination interval for these persons in all age groups.
 - Proposed wording for the revised recommendation: "A second dose of PPSV23 is recommended 5 years after the first dose of PPSV23 for persons aged >2 years who are immunocompromised, have sickle cell disease, or functional or anatomic asplenia."

Additional recommendations for use of PPSV23 and PCV7 can be found in the following documents:

- 1. The 1997 ACIP recommendations for prevention of pneumococcal disease. Available at: http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr4608.pdf
- The 2000 ACIP recommendations for preventing pneumococcal disease among infants and young children. Available at: http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr4909.pdf