

Public Health  
Central Zone

**Date: Monday, November 05, 2018**  
**To: Central Zone Pharmacists, Family Physicians, and Internal Medicine Physicians**  
**From: Dr. Digby Horne, Medical Officer of Health – Central Zone**  
**Subject: Eligibility Criteria For Provincially Funded Pneumococcal Vaccines**

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Dear Health Care Provider:

Periodically, Public Health receives questions from pharmacists and physicians about eligibility criteria for provincially funded pneumococcal conjugate 13 and pneumococcal polysaccharide 23 vaccines, as well as immunization-referrals of patients who are ineligible to receive these vaccines.

If you are considering either [pneumococcal conjugate 13](#) or [pneumococcal polysaccharide 23](#) or both for your patients and wish them to receive these at no cost from Public Health as part of the provincial immunization program, please be advised that eligibility criteria can be found in the AHS Immunization Program Standards Manual. A link to this webpage is available from the Central Zone Medical Officer of Health (CZMOH) webpage [www.ahs.ca/czmoh](http://www.ahs.ca/czmoh); alternatively, enter *CZMOH* into a search engine. At the CZMOH webpage see *Resources/Immunization* (bottom, centre); once at the Immunization Program Standards Manual website select the *Biologics Products Information* in the accordion folder.

If your patient does not meet eligibility criteria for provincially funded vaccine and you nonetheless wish them to be immunized, you may refer them to a pharmacy, in which case all costs will assumed by the patient.

Thank you for your attention and assistance in this matter.