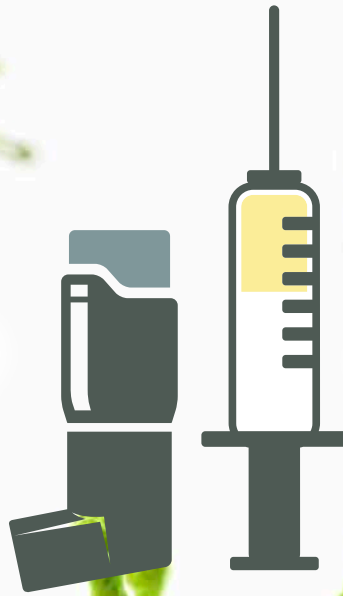


# Got Asthma?



# Get Vaccinated!

*Pneumococcal disease is serious...*



## What is pneumococcal disease?

Pneumococcal disease is caused by bacteria that can lead to serious infections.



## How can I get it?

You can catch pneumococcal bacteria from an infected person who coughs or sneezes around you.



## I have asthma. Am I at an increased risk?

Patients with asthma are at increased risk for complications from pneumococcal disease. This is true even if your asthma symptoms are well controlled.

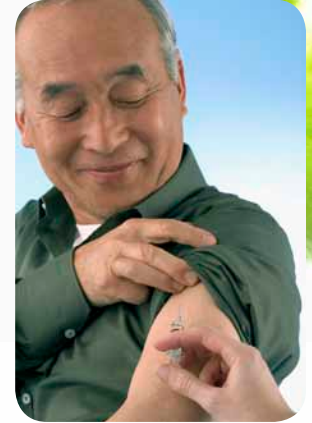
## Is it serious?



**Yes.**

Even with good medical care, pneumococcal disease can be deadly. The disease is hard to treat because some bacteria have become resistant to antibiotics. Pneumococcal bacteria can cause pneumonia, blood infections, and meningitis. Such infections can lead to deafness, brain damage, and even death.

*cont. on back*



## How can I protect myself?

**GET Vaccinated!** Pneumococcal vaccination is recommended for all adults with asthma. Medicare and most private insurance companies pay for vaccination if needed.



For more information and resources about pneumococcal disease, visit:  
[www.cdc.gov/VACCINES/vpd-vac/pneumo/default.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/VACCINES/vpd-vac/pneumo/default.htm)

For more information and resources on asthma,  
visit the North Carolina Asthma Program website at  
[www.asthma.ncdhhs.gov](http://www.asthma.ncdhhs.gov)

