Children under 2 years of age are among those most at risk for pneumococcal disease.

Streptococcus pneumoniae bacteria, or pneumococcus, can cause many types of illnesses. Before the vaccine, each year in children less than 5 years of age there were:

- more than 700 cases of meningitis
- about 13,000 blood infections
- about 5 million ear infections
- about 200 deaths in severe pneumococcal disease, in these children, since the vaccine has been available.

What is pneumococcal disease?

Pneumococcal disease is caused by bacteria that can lead to serious infections in the lungs (pneumonia), blood, and brain (meningitis).

Children under 2 years of age are among those most at risk for pneumococcal disease.

However, about 18,000 older adults die of pneumococcal disease each year.

PCV Vaccine Coverage for 2 year olds

However, about 18,000 older adults die of pneumococcal disease each year. 

Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV) is recommended for:

- All children at 2, 4, 6, & 12-15 months of age
- People 2 through 64 years old with certain medical conditions
- All adults 65 years of age & older

At least 1 dose of PCV protects:

- 8 in 10 Babies from invasive pneumococcal disease
- 75 in 100 Adults 65 years & older from invasive pneumococcal disease
- 45 in 100 Adults 65 years & older against pneumococcal pneumonia
- 84.1% of Montana two-year olds are vaccinated with PCV.

For more information on pneumococcal vaccine, visit: www.immunization.mt.gov