

**VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER  
DIVISION OF TRAUMA AND SURGICAL CRITICAL CARE**

**POST- SPLENECTOMY VACCINATION GUIDELINE**

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**Indications:**

- All patients status post splenectomy
- All patients with <50% intact spleen

**Protocol:**

- Pneumovax 0.5mL IM
  - Haemophilus vaccine (Hib) 0.5 mL IM
  - Meningococcal Vaccine (Menactra) 0.5 mL IM
  - **Administer vaccination on the day of discharge or day 14, whichever comes first**
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**Rationale:**

Vaccinations should be administered at 14 days post injury or prior to discharge from the hospital, whichever comes first, unless patient remains in the ICU<sup>1-3</sup>.

Vaccinations should be administered post-ICU stay.

Re-vaccination of Pneumovax every 6 years. (CDC Guidelines) No data to support the same for Hib or Menomune.

\* Suggest implementation of “Medi-Alert” bracelet literature for post-splenectomy patients.

References

1. Howdieshell TR, Heffernan D, DiPiro JT. Surgical infection society guidelines for vaccination after traumatic injury. Surg Infect (Larchmt ) 2006; 7:275-303.
2. Shatz DV, Schinsky MF, Pais LB et al. Immune responses of splenectomized trauma patients to the 23-valent pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine at 1 versus 7 versus 14 days after splenectomy. J Trauma 1998; 44:760-765.
3. Shatz DV, Romero-Steiner S, Elie CM et al. Antibody responses in postsplenectomy trauma patients receiving the 23-valent pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine at 14 versus 28 days postoperatively. J Trauma 2002; 53:1037-1042.

CDC - Vaccine Information Statements (patient information handouts). Available online at <http://www.cdc.gov/nip/publications/VIS/default.htm>

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