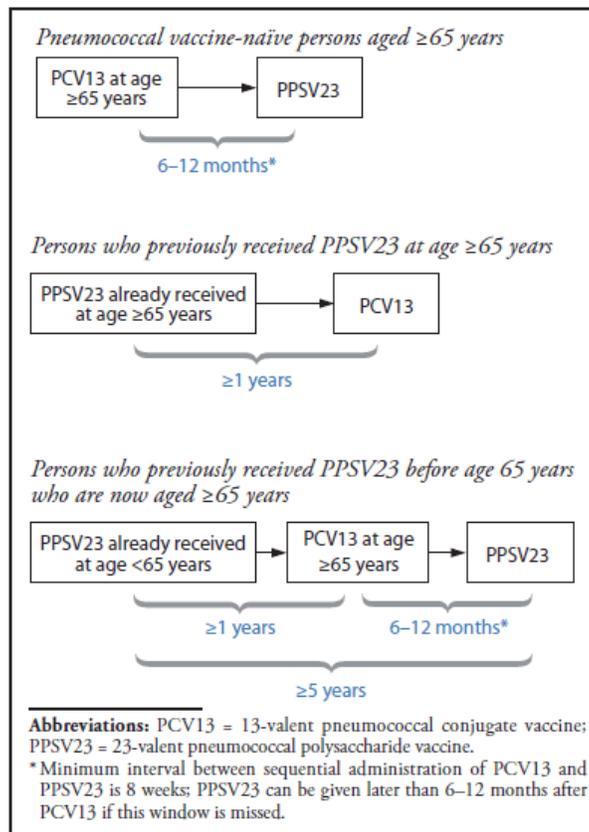


# Change in Medicare Benefit for Pneumococcal Vaccine

## MEDICARE UPDATED COVERAGE POLICY OF PNEUMOCOCCAL VACCINATIONS FOR ADULTS AGE 65+

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) updated the Medicare coverage benefits to align with the 2014 Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) pneumococcal vaccines<sup>i</sup> guidelines recommending two different pneumococcal vaccinations [13-Valent Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV13) and 23-Valent Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine (PPSV23)]. Effective for dates of service on or after September 19, 2014, Medicare will cover:

- An initial pneumococcal vaccine to all Medicare beneficiaries who have never received the vaccine under Medicare Part B; and
- A different, second pneumococcal vaccine administered one year after the first vaccine (i.e., 11 full months following the month in which the last pneumococcal vaccine was administered).



WPS (Medicare Part B payer) reimburses for dates of service on and after September 19, 2014. For previously denied claims for service dates after September 19, 2014 file a claim adjustment.

<sup>i</sup> Sara Tomczyk, MSc, Nancy M. Bennett, MD, Charles Stoecker, PhD, et al: *Use of 13-Valent Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine and 23-Valent Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine Among Adults Aged ≥65 Years: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)*, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) September 19, 2014 / 63(37);822-825