

Long-Term Care Survey Alert

What Do You Think?

Should nursing and other health care staff receive pneumococcal vaccination to prevent transmitting the infection to elderly nursing home residents?

Answer: While pneumococcal vaccination is important, the **Centers for Disease Control & Prevention** doesn't particularly recommend health care workers receive it - unless they have a risk factor, such as cardiovascular or pulmonary disease, or are age 65 or older. Studies show that pneumonia vaccination doesn't decrease the risk of a health care worker being a carrier of the microorganism and transmitting it to patients.

Source: Raymond Strikas, MD, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention