CDC’s Pneumococcal Vaccine Protocol
For your information, below is a guide to the proper vaccination sequence recommended by the CDC. The CDC recommendations for pneumococcal vaccines now include both Pneumovax 23 and Prevnar 13.

What is the PCI Monthly Report?
At the end of a visit from your Pharma-Care, Inc. consultant pharmacist, a Summary Report (partial or final) is generated. The Report contains important suggestions, information, comments, summaries and recommendations for your nurses and physicians. Each report includes things like: overall facility comments, unit inspection results, unit wide comments, nursing recommendations, and special physician sign-off sheets designed to present to each doctor.

Talk to your Pharma-Care, Inc. consultant pharmacist about optional monthly summary reports: psych monitoring, medication errors, adverse drug reactions, pain management, time savings, labs, cost savings, medication observations, general dose reductions and antibiotic stewardship.

How Many of Your Staff Receive eMail Copies of Your Monthly Report?
Pharma-Care reports will be emailed to four facility staff members of your choice for distribution. Each facility is responsible to distribute copies to other discipline areas such as Unit Managers, InService Coordinators, Pain Management Teams and Wound Care Staff.

State Survey Trends/Focus
Our review of last quarter state surveys identified the following areas of concern:

- F-577 Signage
  - Failure to post signage for State Survey results
- F-641 MDS
  - Inaccurate – coding errors
- F-698 Dialysis
  - Resident weight not on documentation upon return from dialysis and facility did not call to obtain it.
- F-744 Care Plans
  - Care plans not specific to resident condition (i.e. dementia, shingles)
- F880 Infection Control
  - Improper hand washing techniques
Have you ever received a fax you can't read?
Many times senders are not even aware that the faxes they send are unreadable by the recipient. This may seem minor to the sender, but if there are streaks going through medication dose information, or white spots appear in a detailed information area on a resident chart, the missing information would require clarification which causes delays. Streaks, white spots, and black smudges are all results of a poorly maintained fax device. Streaks are caused by a scratched lens caused by someone leaving a paper clip or staple on a sheet.
Wite-out is the biggest culprit of smudges. When the liquid is still wet, Wite-out covers the faxing optics of the flatbed of the device which then shows up as a black streak. White spots are cause by low spots on the transfer roller which cause air to separate the original from the faxing optics.
Black smudges come from fingerprints on the flatbed surface or the original optics of the scanner. And sticky fingers from glazed donuts are among the worst culprits!
To avoid these problems, conduct regular maintenance checks on your fax device. At that time, also check if your device is sending out the proper Caller-ID for the connection being used. If your device is provided by your pharmacy provider, have them come in and review the device. Or, have a staff member review the causes above and clean the surfaces.

Lines or tracks

Missing areas

Smudges

EPIC Corner
Electronic Pharmacist Information Consultant
(Medication reviews within 48 business hours)

EPIC Phone: 732-943-3573
EPIC Fax: 732-574-3469 or 3926
Email: epic@pharmacareinc.com

Help Prevent Duplication
As EPIC moves forward into the next decade, many facilities have chosen the option to have EPIC port into the facilities’ electronic medical record and download any new residents. This has been very successful in many cases, saving nursing the burden of faxing information to the EPIC office.
If your facility is doing this, it is most important that your nursing staff be advised that they no longer must fax the resident information to EPIC. Unfortunately, this message does not seem to filter down to nursing. Nursing, in these cases, still faxes resident information to EPIC. Upon receipt, EPIC has no choice other than to perform a review. When EPIC administrative functions are performed, the same resident will show up in your system as a new admission, the information is downloaded, and a review performed. Although EPIC has safeguards built-in to prevent a duplicate review from being performed, this is not always the case.

When this occurs, despite best efforts to prevent duplicate billing, your facility may be billed for a second review within 72 hours for the resident. When this occurs, accounting departments on both sides of this spectrum are forced to spend additional time.

Working together, your facility and EPIC can significantly reduce this concern.

As always, any clarifications need can be addressed to the EPIC administrator at either 732-943-3573 or emailed to rcoritore@pharmacareinc.com.

DEA NATIONAL Rx TAKEBACK

Saturday, April 27 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
DEATakeBack.com