

## **Pneumococcal infections**

The causative agent of pneumococcal infections (pneumococcus) is found in the pharynx of healthy carriers and is transmitted between people by close contact with infectious droplets.

In children, it most often causes otitis media, less commonly pneumonia, and sometimes invasive pneumococcal infections (meningitis, sepsis, invasive pneumonia), which can be fatal.

In Slovenia, the incidence of invasive pneumococcal infections is highest in children under two years of age. Children in nurseries and kindergartens are most at risk. In many European countries where this vaccination has been introduced, the incidence of invasive pneumococcal infections has fallen significantly.

The causative agent of these infections is increasingly resistant to many antibiotics, making them more difficult to treat, which makes their prevention through vaccination all the more important.

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More - see Suppurative meningitis in the [following link](#).

Questions and answers about pneumococcal infections and diseases can be found at the [following link](#).