Pneumococcal disease can be a serious threat

What is pneumococcal disease?

Pneumococcal infection can result in different types of diseases, including:
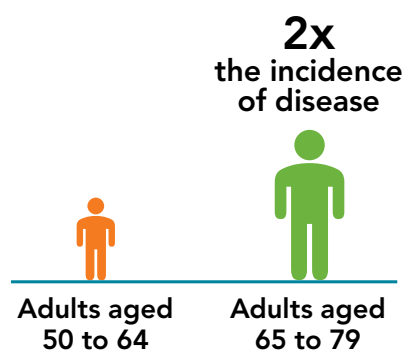
- **Pneumonia (noo-moh-nyah): Infection in the lungs**
- **Meningitis (men-in-ji-tis): Infection in the lining of the brain and spinal cord**
- **Bacteremia (bak-tuh-ree-mee-uh): Infection in the blood**

Pneumococcal diseases are caused by *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and can be life threatening.

Pneumococcal disease can be serious

It can lead to hospitalization and, in rare cases, may even cause death. As you get older, your risk of developing invasive pneumococcal disease increases:
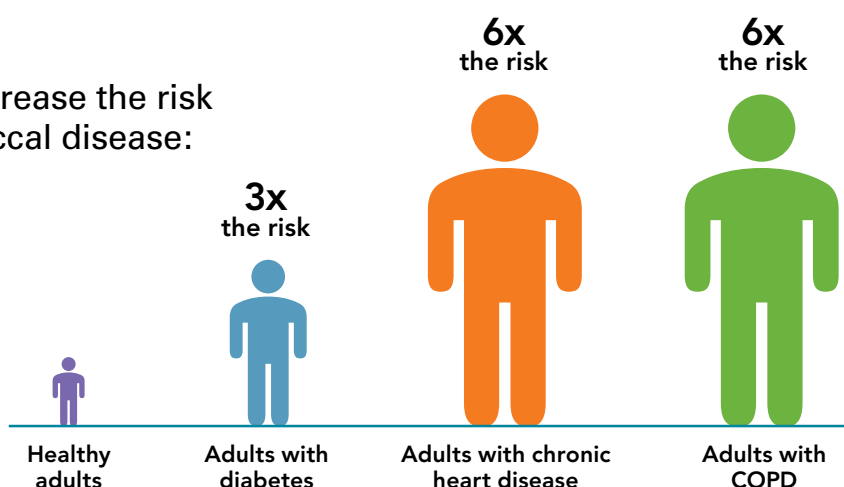
- **Adults aged 65 to 79 years have double the incidence rate of disease compared to those aged 50 to 64**

2x
the incidence
of disease

Adults aged
50 to 64

Adults aged
65 to 79

Who is at risk?

Certain medical conditions can increase the risk of developing invasive pneumococcal disease:

- **Diabetes**
- **Chronic heart disease**
- **COPD**

6x
the risk

6x
the risk

3x
the risk

Healthy
adults

Adults with
diabetes

Adults with chronic
heart disease

Adults with
COPD

COPD = chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

(Figures not drawn to scale.)

Talk to your health care provider about your risk for pneumococcal disease.

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