

Hand hygiene is key to infection prevention

How to wash your hands:

- Apply alcohol based hand rub
or
- Wet hands with water
- Apply soap
- Rub hands together for 15 seconds
- Rinse hands well
- Dry hands with paper towel
- Turn off tap with used paper towel

Thank you for your help and cooperation

This fact sheet provides basic general information only and is to be used as a quick guide, not as a complete resource on the subject. If you have any further questions, ask your physician, local health unit or health care professional.

This information was obtained from the following source:

Public Health Agency of Canada. Invasive pneumococcal disease. Retrieved March 7, 2014 from: <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/im/vpd-mev/pneumococcal-eng.php>

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Invasive Streptococcal Pneumoniae



Patient/Visitor Information

Invasive Streptococcal Pneumonia

What is invasive streptococcal pneumonia?

This is an infection caused by the streptococcal pneumonia bacteria. People who become sick with streptococcal pneumonia may have had a recent infection somewhere else in the body such as lung, sinus or ear. Sometimes, the infection may lead to streptococcal meningitis or streptococcal infection in the blood.

What are the symptoms of invasive streptococcal pneumonia?

Symptoms of streptococcal meningitis may include fever, severe headache, vomiting, stiffness of the neck, drowsiness or excitement, confusion and irritability. Symptoms of a streptococcal infection in the blood may include fever and feeling unwell.

How soon do symptoms appear?

Symptoms may appear as early as 1 to 3 days but may vary according to where the infection is located.

How is invasive streptococcal pneumonia diagnosed?

Meningitis is usually diagnosed by testing spinal fluid. It is obtained by a test called a lumbar puncture (spinal tap) in which a needle is inserted into an area in the lower back. Infection in the blood stream is diagnosed by a blood test. Your physician may order other tests.

How is invasive streptococcal pneumonia transmitted?

This bacteria can live in the nose and throat of healthy people without causing any symptoms. It can spread from person to person through droplets from the nose and throat by coughing and sneezing.

What is the treatment for invasive streptococcal pneumonia?

The treatment for invasive pneumococcal disease is antibiotics.

Are there any special concerns about invasive streptococcal pneumonia?

Antibiotics are **not required** if you have had close contact of someone with invasive streptococcal pneumonia infection.

What can be done to prevent invasive streptococcal pneumonia?

There is a vaccine available to prevent streptococcal infections. For further information about the vaccine, please contact your healthcare provider or the health unit. The following are helpful in preventing the spread of any illness:

- Cover mouth and nose when coughing and/or sneezing
- Wash hands well with soap and water or alcohol rinse/gel after coughing, sneezing, going to the washroom and before food preparation
- Dispose of tissues carefully
- Maintain current immunizations



Wash hands frequently with soap and water