



Information Leaflet for 11 - 16 year-olds

Pneumococci in the nose (PIN study)

At any time and without making them ill, about half of children carry germs up their nose (called pneumococci) which can cause serious illnesses like meningitis and blood poisoning. Vaccines against these germs can protect them against these serious illnesses and help clear these germs from the nose. This protects the population from these infections as the germs do not move around so easily.

Your GP surgery is working with Public Health England (PHE) to see how often these germs, are found in the noses of children and people who live in their house.

We would like to tell you why we are doing this study and what would happen if you decided to take part.

Why is the study being done?

All children in the UK should be given a vaccine to protect against these germs. We would like to see if having the vaccines changes which germs children and people in their house have up their noses.

Why is my family being asked to take part?

Your family is being invited to take part because there is at least one child in your home who is between 1-5 years old.

Who else is taking part in this study?

In the next few months, we are hoping to collect nose and saliva swabs from more than 400 children and adults in Hertfordshire and Gloucestershire

Do I have to take part?

You can decide whether you want to take part or not. Nobody will be cross or disappointed if you decide you would rather not, and your doctor will see you as normal.

What happens if I agree to get involved?

If you want to take part, the nurse will visit you and your family to tell you more about the study. You and your parent/guardian will then be asked to sign a form to say you are happy to join.

What might be good or bad about taking part?

There is only one nose swab, which may be a little uncomfortable for a few seconds. It might make your nose itch or your eyes water a bit. We would also like to have a saliva swab so your nurse will ask you to take one with a foam swab in your mouth, like brushing your teeth.

We hope that the results of this study will give us important information about how well the vaccine is working.

What will happen to my samples?

The swabs will be sent to a laboratory in London to be tested, to see if there are any germs there, and if there are then what types.

Who should I ask if I have some questions?

If you would like to ask any questions or get more information about the study, you should ask to speak to your parent/guardian and you can speak to your nurse if you wish

Sticker with Vaccine Research Nurse Name and Contact details
