

The Bedford Board of Health is holding an appointment-only Clinic to provide free Pneumococcal vaccination to Bedford residents. The clinic is scheduled on December 6th from 10 to 11 AM at the Town Center Building (yellow building behind Town Hall), 12 Mudge Way, Flint Room, Second Floor. Because an appointment is necessary to attend this clinic, we ask that you call the Bedford Board of Health at 781-275-6507 before December 3rd to schedule an appointment.

Pneumococcal disease is caused by the Streptococcus pneumonia bacteria. Pneumococcal disease can lead to serious infections of the lung (pneumonia), blood (bacteremia) and the covering of the brain (meningitis). The risk of getting Pneumococcal disease is significantly higher for adults 65 years of age and older. Younger people who have long term health problems, diseases leading to a weakened immune system, or who are taking drugs or treatments that lower the body's resistance to infection are also at risk. In addition, any adult who is a smoker or has asthma is recommended to receive the vaccine.

Only one dose of Pneumococcal vaccine is needed when you receive the first dose after 65 years of age. If you received your first dose of Pneumococcal vaccine before the age of 65, a second dose is recommended and should be given 5 years after the first dose. Please consult with your doctor to determine if Pneumococcal vaccination is appropriate for you.

For the Clinic on December 6th, please bring all your insurance cards and wear clothing that allows for easy access to your arm for vaccine administration.