

**TEACH-BACK QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:
PNEUMONIA**

<p>What should you report to your doctor?</p>	<p>Call your doctor if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. You have fever, body aches, or chills 2. You have more mucus or it has changes in amount, color, odor or is mixed with blood 3. You have trouble breathing while lying flat (waking up at night); need to sleep in a chair, using more pillows 4. You have shortness of breath/wheezing/coughing that is new or getting worse 5. You have chest discomfort with deep breathing that is new or getting worse
<p>Can you tell me the importance of taking your medication as directed?</p>	<p>The infection can come back if you don't finish the medicine, so it is very important that even though you may start to feel better, you continue to take your medication. <i>Use clinical pharmacology for supplemental information/patient medication handouts.</i></p>
<p>It may take several weeks before you feel better, what can you do to relieve the discomfort?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Drink plenty of fluids unless you have fluid restriction.* 2. Coughing and deep breathing exercises 3. Place a warm, wet washcloth loosely over your nose and mouth OR fill a humidifier with warm water and breathe in the warm mist.
<p>What can you do to prevent pneumonia?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wash hands often; avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with your hands 2. Quit smoking/avoid secondhand smoke 3. Avoid being around people who are sick.
<p>Do you have your flu/pneumonia vaccine? Can you tell me the importance of getting your vaccine?</p>	<p>[NURSE: Offer both vaccines if patient has not received them and if criteria are met.] Pneumonia can be a complication of the flu, so it is important to get your flu shot. The pneumonia vaccine will help prevent you getting pneumonia in the future.</p>