

# Strengthen family ties – immunise

## HEALTH WORKERS



### What is Pneumococcal disease?

- Pneumococcal disease is a leading cause of serious illness and death among Aboriginal children under five years of age
- Pneumococcal disease can lead to lung and blood infections, cause brain damage and lead to death
- Pneumococcal disease is also a large cause of pneumonia in adults 50 years of age or older; young children and older people are especially at risk of death from this disease
- Pneumococcal disease is mainly spread by coughs and sneezes
- Pneumococcal disease can occur at any time but infections seem to be more common during winter and spring



### To stop getting Pneumococcal disease

- Immunisation can prevent serious problems and death resulting from Pneumococcal disease
- Washing your hands, wiping down surfaces and covering your mouth when you cough or sneeze will also help to stop spreading Pneumococcal disease



### Immunisation is the best way to prevent Pneumococcal Disease.

### Who should get immunised?

- All Aboriginal people should get immunised especially the babies and older people
- People with diabetes or asthma
- People with lung, heart and kidney illnesses
- People who smoke or are heavy drinkers



### Who should not get immunised?

- Pregnant women
- Persons who have had a previous bad reaction to Pneumococcal vaccine (seek advice from a Doctor)



**Having a vaccination is the best way to protect you,  
your family and community from Pneumococcal disease!**

