



Pneumonia in Children

Overview – Pneumonia is a form of acute respiratory infection that affects the lungs.

Causes – Pneumonia is caused by several infectious agents, including viruses, bacteria and fungi.

Risk Factors – Children whose immune systems are compromised are at a higher risk of developing pneumonia. Pre-existing illnesses also increase a child's risk of contacting pneumonia. Environmental factors such as indoor air pollution, living in crowded homes, and parental smoking also increase a child's susceptibility to pneumonia.

Prevention – Immunization against Hib, pneumococcus, measles and whooping cough (pertussis) is the most effective way to prevent pneumonia.

SYMPTOMS

Cough that may produce mucus • Slow worsening cough that can last for months
Chest pain • Fatigue • Headache • Sore throat • Fever & chills • Diarrhea



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