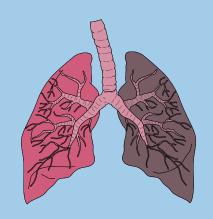
WORLD PNEUMONIA DAY - UNDERSTANDING CHILDHOOD PNEUMONIA



01 What is Childhood Pneumonia?

Pneumonia is an acute respiratory infection affecting the lungs, making it difficult for children to breathe. It remains one of the leading causes of death in children under five, especially in low- and middle-income countries like India.

02 Symptoms to Watch For:

- Rapid or difficult breathing
- Cough and chest pain
- Fever and chills
- Loss of appetite and general weakness



03 Why is it a Concern?

- Globally, pneumonia claims the lives of over 700,000 children under five each year, with a significant portion in India. It kills more children than any other infectious disease, surpassing deaths caused by malaria and measles combined.

04 Prevention

- 1. Vaccination: Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV), Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) vaccine, and measles
- 2. Good Nutrition
- 3. Avoid Exposure to Pollutants:

05 Treatment Options:

- Antibiotics: Bacterial pneumonia can be effectively treated with antibiotics if diagnosed early. Commonly used antibiotics include Amoxicillin.
- Oxygen Therapy: For severe cases, especially when breathing difficulty is significant, oxygen therapy may be required.
- Supportive Care: Hydration and rest are essential to aid recovery.

06 Pharmacist's Role:

As a pharmacist, you can play a key role in preventing and managing pneumonia by:

- Educating parents on the importance of vaccinations and early symptom recognition.
- Providing information about the proper use of antibiotics and discouraging self-medication.
- Offering guidance on reducing risk factors like exposure to smoke and indoor air pollution.

07 Take Action This World Pneumonia Day:

Encourage parents and caregivers to vaccinate their children and seek medical help early if pneumonia symptoms arise. Together, we can help save young lives and reduce the impact of this preventable disease.

REF: WHO