



**FEDERAL SERVICE ON CUSTOMERS' RIGHTS
PROTECTION AND HUMAN WELL-BEING SURVEILLANCE**

PNEUMOCOCCAL INFECTION

Pneumococcal infection – the most prevalent bacterial infection in humans – annually results in 1.6 million of deaths worldwide including those of 800,000 children younger than two years of age.

Pneumococci may cause such dangerous diseases as meningitis, pneumonia, sepsis as well as acute otitis media and sinusitis.

Respiratory and ear problems account for 70% of all pediatric visits to doctors.

The currently available treatment modalities do not allow preventing pneumococcal infection but it can be prevented by means of vaccination.

In most economically developed countries of Europe and North America, all children under two are mandatorily immunized against pneumococcal infection.

Now, such an opportunity is provided to children of our City: St. Petersburg is one of the first country's regions that decided to protect its children from pneumococcal infection.

The Charitable Rostropovich-Vishnevskaya Foundation "For the Health and Future of Children" made possible free vaccination against pneumococcal infection of children of the first year of life. Donated to the City efficacious and safe vaccine has all the necessary RF certificates and is recommended by the World Health Organization.

In addition to that, administrations of the districts purchased the pneumococcal vaccines for immunizing premature babies.

Vaccination against pneumococcal infection begins in St. Petersburg in July 2013.