

[PKIDs Immunization Videos - Pneumococcal Disease](#)

(Note: Except when noted, the speaker is shown on the screen. There is music playing softly in the background through most of the video.)

Mom: February 19, 2001, is...

(Image of Abigail wearing red hat)

Mom: ...the day that our Abigail passed away. About 7 o'clock in the evening, we were reading books, and Abigail said she didn't feel well.

Doctor: The early signs of invasive pneumococcal disease might not stand out in a person's mind. It's that it progresses so rapidly. That's one of the problems.

Mom: By about 6 o'clock in the morning, Dwayne said "Shannon, we need to take her to the emergency room. She's very sick."

Doctor: The bacteria affects different parts of the body. It can affect the bloodstream, the ears, the brain, the lungs...

Mom: She was starting to develop purple blotches all over her extremities.

Doctor: Invasive pneumococcal disease causes acute illness, like meningitis and pneumonia. But it can also lead to long-term problems, like brain damage and deafness.

Mom: We went into the emergency room and they started calling "code red." So they knew that she was dying.

(Image of smiling Abigail)

Mom: Our daughter was two weeks shy of her sixth birthday.

Doctor: Invasive pneumococcal disease causes tens of thousands of hospitalizations and many deaths each year in the United States.

(Image of brother and sister)

Mom: Our little boy, who was 11 months younger, saw the whole thing.

(Image of smiling Abigail)

Mom: We were able to rock Abigail afterwards for hours and then they performed an autopsy on Abigail. She had overwhelming sepsis due to pneumococcal.

Doctor: Sepsis is another way of saying that the bacteria is entering the bloodstream, and that will lead to having the body shut down.

Mom: We went home and Samuel started to vomit. And I couldn't believe that I was going through this.

(Image series of Samuel with toy dog and Abigail's headstone)

Mom: They admitted Samuel and he was in the hospital for two days. And then after he got out, we were able to have a funeral for our daughter.

Doctor: In order to prevent pneumococcal disease, it's really important to be vaccinated.

(Video clip of smiling Abigail)

Mom: We had a doctor that was a younger doctor, who didn't have a strong belief in vaccinations and had actually encouraged us not to vaccinate.

Doctor: It's better to prevent the disease by getting the vaccine than by trying to fight it with antibiotics that may or may not work.

Mom: They were not vaccinated, and because of Samuel's asthma, they should have been vaccinated.

Doctor: This is a disease where we have two vaccines, one for the young children and one for seniors. Interestingly, by vaccinating young children, we've seen a decline in the rate of death from invasive pneumococcal disease in the elderly.

(Image of family of four)

Mom: He now has a younger brother, so his role in the family has changed from youngest child now to oldest child. He talks about his sister...

(Video clip of Abigail and Samuel)

Mom: ...and wants to make sure Nicholas, our five year old, knows about his sister.

Doctor: If you've already had pneumococcal disease, you still need the vaccine because there are so many different types of pneumococcal disease.

Mom: I can't tell parents enough the importance of vaccinations.

Voiceover: Check with your provider to see if immunization is right for your family.

(Image: PKIDs.ORG Parents of Kids with Infectious Diseases)

Mom: I hope that no one else has to hold their child while they die.