**Title:** Age, Race, and Location Predict Pneumococcal Vaccine Uptake

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**Background/Purpose:** Pneumonia is the primary cause of death and hospitalization among older adults (Bennett et al., 2010). Although pneumococcal vaccines are recommended for many groups, vaccine uptake is lower among racially minoritized and rural adults (Abba-Aji et al., 2022).

**Methods:** Using the 2020 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), data from 5,311 West Virginia adults and 11,881 New York adults were analyzed. Logistic regression was used to examine if pneumococcal vaccination was predicted by age, race, and location.

**Results:** The equation was significant, $\chi^2$ (DF=6, N=17192) = 3133.31, $p < 0.01$. Younger age and race corresponded to hesitancy. Hesitancy was higher among Black non-Hispanic adults (1.28), Multiracial non-Hispanic adults (1.41) and Hispanic adults (1.32) relative to White non-Hispanic adults. West Virginians were less hesitant than New Yorkers.

**Conclusions:** There are race-based vaccination disparities among older adults. To increase these rates, we must implement pneumococcal vaccination stations in local areas and regain the trust between minoritized patients and healthcare providers.