

### **Case 3**

A 65-year-old man is seen in clinic for routine diabetes care. He is up to date with most of his vaccines (he got a tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis booster three years earlier after a fishhook incident), but has refused the flu shot every year. He is offered a pneumococcus-23 vaccine today but refuses, saying that he doesn't need it because "I never get sick." Upon further questioning it appears that another factor is a fear of needles. After discussion, he leaves without the vaccine. It is brought up again periodically (usually at flu-shot time), but he continues to decline until one year when he develops community-acquired pneumonia. He is treated as an outpatient, but accepts the vaccine when it is next offered.