Improving outcomes of childhood pneumonia in Kenya through pneumococcal vaccination and case management
Ayieko, P.O.

Citation for published version (APA):

General rights
It is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), other than for strictly personal, individual use, unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

Disclaimer/Complaints regulations
If you believe that digital publication of certain material infringes any of your rights or (privacy) interests, please let the Library know, stating your reasons. In case of a legitimate complaint, the Library will make the material inaccessible and/or remove it from the website. Please Ask the Library: http://uba.uva.nl/en/contact, or a letter to: Library of the University of Amsterdam, Secretariat, Singel 425, 1012 WP Amsterdam, The Netherlands. You will be contacted as soon as possible.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This thesis is the culmination of work conducted from 2004 onwards and has immensely benefited from the inputs of several individuals and institutions whose assistance is gratefully acknowledged. Thanks are due to the distinguished faculty, Prof Bernard Brabin and Prof Mike English, who served as my primary supervisors. Firstly, I appreciate the academic guidance provided and your contribution to the entire PhD progression from the initial stages of my training. The advice and support provided during supervision and contributions towards developing this thesis shaped my work as it evolved during the entire study period. Secondly, I am grateful to Prof English for introducing me to research and the mentorship provided over the years which prepared me for this doctoral work.

I would also like to sincerely thank Ulla Griffiths and Prof Anthony Scott for allowing me to take on the pneumococcal cost effectiveness study. The generous support offered by both of you in your respective fields of economic evaluation and epidemiology turned this task into a fascinating and real learning experience. This thesis is greatly enriched by your input and I gained invaluable skills from this exercise and our interactions.

I am indebted to all co-authors on the publications presented as part of this thesis. In particular I would like to point out the contributions of Angela Akumu, Emelda Okiro, Isaac Mugoya, Moses Ndiritu, Tansy Edwards, and all past and present staff of the Child and Newborn Health Group. I also acknowledge Elizabeth Allen and Jim Todd for their advice on various aspects of statistical analysis on several studies that were compiled into the final thesis. Importantly, I would like to thank the many patients, caretakers and health professionals who were directly involved in the series of studies presented here not forgetting the contribution of staff at the paediatric unit at
Kilifi District Hospital and persons working within the Kilifi Health and Demographic Surveillance System.

Without the special support given by the Kenya Medical research Institute (KEMRI) through its Centre for Geographic Medicine Research-Coast, this work would not have been possible. I would like to thank staff at the Division of Vaccines and Immunisations for their help with the pneumococcal vaccination work. Staff at the Ministry of Health and participating hospitals deserve special mention for their support in the District Hospitals study. The Wellcome Trust (United Kingdom) provided funding for the studies presented here through senior research fellowships awarded to Prof Mike English and Prof Anthony Scott.

Finally, a special thank you to my family and all friends not mentioned above for all the encouragement and support during the period I was undertaking the work presented in this thesis.