



RSV Recommendations and Prevention 2024

September - 2024

What is RSV?

Respiratory syncytial (sin-SISH-uhl) virus, or RSV, is a common respiratory virus that infects the lungs, but can also affect the nose and throat. RSV symptoms make it difficult to distinguish it from the common cold or other respiratory viruses (like the flu or COVID-19). Most people that get RSV will only have mild illness, but it can be very dangerous for babies, young children and adults 60 and older.



PUBLIC HEALTH
COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

RSV Vaccines:

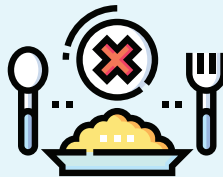
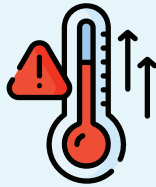
- Vaccines are recommended to protect adults aged 60 years and older from severe RSV.
- There are two immunizations recommended to protect infants from severe RSV: a maternal RSV vaccine (Pfizer's ABRYSCO) given during pregnancy or an RSV antibody given to infants after birth.



RSV Symptoms:

People infected with RSV usually show symptoms within 4 to 6 days after getting infected. Symptoms of RSV infection usually include:

- Runny nose
- Decrease in appetite
- Coughing
- Sneezing
- Fever
- Wheezing
- These symptoms usually appear in stages and not all at once.



⚠ When to seek emergency care
Call your healthcare professional if you are having difficulty breathing, not drinking enough fluids, or experiencing worsening symptoms.

What to do when you are sick:

Antiviral medication is not routinely recommended to fight infection. Most RSV infections go away on their own in a week or two. However, RSV can cause severe illness in some people.

- **Manage fever and pain** with over-the-counter fever reducers and pain relievers, such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen. (Never give aspirin to children.)
- **Drink enough fluids.** It is important for people with RSV infection to drink enough fluids to prevent dehydration (loss of body fluids).
- **Talk to your healthcare provider** before giving a child non-prescription cold medicine. Some medicines contain ingredients that are not good for children.