

HOW TO PROTECT THE MOST VULNERABLE FROM RSV

Respiratory Syncytial Virus

INFANTS & YOUNG CHILDREN

OLDER ADULTS (60+)

The Numbers Every Year

RSV is the leading cause of infant hospitalization in the US, and accounts for 58-80,000 hospitalizations for children under 5.

The Numbers Every Year

RSV causes severe illness in older adults, resulting in 60-160,000 hospitalizations and 6-10,000 deaths annually.

Protection for Babies/Toddlers

- The pregnant parent can get the **RSV vaccine** (recommended during 32-36 weeks of pregnancy) to pass on protection in the womb
 - usually September-January
- The baby can receive the **RSV antibody** directly; recommended when younger than 8 months old
 - usually October-March

Protection for Older Adults

- Adults 60 years and older can receive the **RSV vaccine**
 - Cases of RSV increased as early as July in parts of the United States
 - It is recommended to get your vaccine as soon as it is available in your community

Special Considerations

For children 8-19 months old entering their 2nd RSV season, a dose of the RSV antibody (injection) is recommended if they are:

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Severely immunocompromised
- Prone to chronic lung disease due to being born premature
- Have severe cystic fibrosis

Special Considerations

RSV can lead to:

- Pneumonia (lung infection)
- Hospitalization
- More severe symptoms for people with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) or congestive heart failure

Everyday Preventive Measures

- Stay home when sick
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with tissue or shirt sleeve - NOT your hands
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with others (for example: kissing, shaking hands, sharing cups and eating utensils)
- Clean frequently touched surfaces like doorknobs or mobile devices