



RSV Prevention

What is RSV?

It is a small virus that can cause a minor cold or severe infection in the small airways called bronchiolitis. This virus causes the most severe infections in young babies and older adults.

How BIG of a problem is RSV? VERY BIG!

Every year approximately 50,000 children are hospitalized with RSV bronchiolitis in the United States. The majority of these are otherwise HEALTHY babies, especially younger than 6 months of age.

When is RSV season?

In OHIO, RSV season is usually from October through March. The peak number of children infected typically occurs around the end of October through November, but sometimes this varies.

How can we prevent severe RSV infection in our young babies?

1. Good hand washing! And toy cleaning (RSV likes to stick to surfaces).
2. Avoiding people who are sick
3. Wear a mask if you have respiratory symptoms and try to avoid being around those who are high risk for RSV (infants and the elderly).
4. **We now have 2 options for immunizations:**
 - RSV vaccine (Abrysvo®) in pregnant women (given at 32-36 weeks of gestation from September through January).
 - RSV monoclonal antibody in the form of a shot given to babies. Two options are available: nirsevimab (Beyfortus®) and clesrovimab (Enflonia®).

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PREVENTION IS KEY. BOTH OF THESE IMMUNIZATION OPTIONS HAVE BEEN SHOWN TO BE SAFE AND EFFECTIVE. THEY DECREASE THE RISK OF SEVERE RSV INFECTION BY ~80% AND RISK OF MEDICALLY ATTENDED RSV INFECTION (an office or urgent care visit) BY UP TO ~60%.

TIME IS GOLDEN: if a baby can't get the immunization at the birthing hospital, they should get it as soon as possible at your pediatrician's office. **DO NOT WAIT** until your 2 week or 1 month appointment if possible, because those first weeks are the highest risk for your baby!

Medication	When to give in mom	When to give in babies	Comment
Abrysvo	At 32-36 weeks of pregnancy from September to January	Not for babies	If mom did not get it, or baby is born before 2 weeks have passed after getting it, baby needs one from below options:
Beyfortus	Not for moms	• Since birth until 8 months during their first RSV season • And for high risk¹ children in their second season (8-19 months old)	Weight based dosing
Enflonsia	Not for moms	• Since birth until 8 months during their first season	Set dose for all, not approved for children entering their second season yet

¹High risk infants: preterm infants with chronic lung disease of prematurity who require medical support any time during the 6-month period before, infants with immunocompromise, cystic fibrosis, American Indian or Alaska Native children

PLEASE TALK TO YOUR OB/GYN AND YOUR PEDIATRICIAN ABOUT THESE OPTIONS TO CHOOSE WHAT IS BEST FOR YOU AND YOUR BABY

Learn more at [NationwideChildrens.org/RSV](https://www.nationwidechildrens.org/RSV)



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