

RSV Vaccine FAQ 2024/2025 season

Question: What is RSV?

Answer: RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) is a virus that causes respiratory illness and mild cold-like symptoms in healthy adults, but infections in infants and the elderly can be more serious and life-threatening, requiring hospitalization.

Question: When is the best time to get the RSV vaccine?

Answer: The best time to get the RSV vaccine is in late summer and early fall before RSV usually starts to spread in communities. In most of the continental US, the ideal time for vaccination is between August and October of 2024/2025.

Question: Can I get an RSV vaccine and my other adult vaccines at the same time?

Answer: Yes, RSV vaccine may be administered with seasonal vaccines such as influenza and Covid-19 vaccines. There are data from coadministration studies showing that the common side effects, like fever and soreness, may be increased when influenza and RSV vaccines are administered the same day. While it is acceptable, research is ongoing to provide more guidance on coadministration with other adult vaccines.

Question: How does RSV spread?

Answer: RSV is spread through droplets in the air when an infected person coughs or sneezes and from direct contact with an infected person or an item contaminated by an infected person.

Question: What are common side effects of the RSV vaccine?

Answer: The most common side effects reported included pain, redness, and swelling in the vaccinated arm, fatigue, fever, headache, nausea, diarrhea, and muscle or joint pain. Side effects were mild.



Question: Where can I find the RSV vaccine?

Answer:

Most retail pharmacies and doctor's offices will stock the RSV vaccine, find your innetwork pharmacy and call, or go online for appointments.

https://www.molinahealthcare.com/

Question: How do I prevent RSV?

Answer: Vaccination can prevent RSV infection, as well as daily measures like coughing and sneezing into tissue or a shirt sleeve instead of hands, frequent hand washing, washing of touched surfaces, and avoiding close contact and sharing items with people.

Question: Who should get the RSV vaccine?

Answer: The CDC recommends a single RSV vaccine for anyone 60 years and older. RSV vaccination with Abrysvo is also recommended for pregnant women during weeks 32-36 within the RSV season. In June 2024, FDA licensed AREXVY for use in people ages 50–59 who are at increased risk of RSV lower respiratory tract disease.

Question: Should I get the RSV vaccine if I'm pregnant?

Answer: Yes, a single dose of the Abrysvo vaccine during weeks 32-36 of pregnancy is recommended to protect babies from severe infection.

Question: Should I receive if I'm less than 60 years old?

Answer: In June 2024, FDA licensed AREXVY for use in people ages 50–59 who are at increased risk of RSV lower respiratory tract disease (including pregnant women during weeks 32-36) since illness would likely be mild and self-resolve within one to two weeks.

Question: Which RSV vaccines are available?

Answer: Abrysvo (Pfizer), Arexvy (GSK) and mRESVIA (Moderna) are the three available vaccines, the CDC does not preferentially recommend one over the other.



Question: How many doses should I receive of the RSV vaccine?

Answer: All three available vaccines are a single dose. Current data shows that the RSV vaccine provides protection for at least two years, research is ongoing to evaluate if additional doses will be needed.

Question: Who should NOT receive the RSV vaccine?

Answer: Anyone with severe hypersensitivity to the vaccine or any component should not receive the RSV vaccine. Vaccination may be postponed in people with severely suppressed immune systems and people with acute severe illness. RSV vaccination should be administered with caution in people with bleeding disorders and people taking anticoagulant medications.

Question: Who should get Beyfortus?

Answer: The CDC recommends Beyfortus for infants younger than 8 months who were born shortly before or are entering their first RSV season. Beyfortus can also be given to children up to 24 months old who are still vulnerable to severe RSV disease during their second RSV season, or to some children aged 8–19 months who are at increased risk.

Question: Can I get Beyfortus if I've had Synagis in the past?

Answer: Infants and children less than 24 months old who have already received Synagis (palivizumab) and who meet the eligibility criteria, can receive Beyfortus™ (nirsevimab). Beyfortus™ (nirsevimab) can be administered 28 days after Synagis (palivizumab), instead of their next Synagis (palivizumab) dose.

Question: Does my insurance cover the RSV vaccine and Beyfortus?

Answer: See the information below for your specific plan or benefit / line of business.

State	LOB	Arexvy	Abrysvo	mRESVIA	Beyfortus
All	Marketpl ace	 Preventative tier Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 50 years 	• • Preventati ve tier	 Preventative tier Min age of 60 years 	 Formulary coverage under pharmacy benefit



State	LOB	Arexvy	Abrysvo	mRESVIA	Beyfortus
AZ	Medicaid	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 60 years 	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 19 	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 60 	 Non-formulary (coverage through Vaccines For Children program)
FL	Medicaid	• Min. age of 60 years	• Min. age of 19	• Min. age of 60	 Non-formulary (coverage through Vaccines For Children program)
IA	Medicaid	 Medical benefit only 	 Medical benefit only 	 Medical benefit only 	 Medical benefit only
IL	Medicaid	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 60 years 	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 60 years 	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 60 years 	 Non-formulary (coverage through Vaccines For Children program)
MI	Medicaid	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 60 years 	• Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 60 years 	 Formulary coverage under pharmacy benefit
NE	Medicaid	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 60 years 	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 19 years 	 Awaiting feedback from plan leadership 	 Non-Formulary (coverage through Vaccines For Children program)
NM	Medicaid	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 50 years 	• Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 60 	 Non-formulary (coverage through Vaccines For Children program)
NV	Medicaid	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 50 years 	Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 60 	 Non-formulary (coverage through Vaccines For Children program)
SC	Medicaid	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 50 years 	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime 	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 60 	 Non-formulary (coverage through Vaccines For Children program)
ТХ	Medicaid	Non-formulary	• Non- formulary	 Non-formulary 	 Non-formulary (coverage through Vaccines For Children program)
UT	Medicaid	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 50 years 	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime 	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 60 	 Non-formulary (coverage through Vaccines For Children program)



State	LOB	Arexvy	Abrysvo	mRESVIA	Beyfortus
VA	Medicaid	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 60 years 	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 19 	 Quantity Limit of 1 dose/lifetime Min. age of 60 	 Non-formulary (coverage through Vaccines For Children program)
WA	Medicaid	• Min. age of 60 years	• Min. age of 19	• Min. age of 60	 Non-formulary (coverage through Vaccines For Children program)

References:

- 1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Immunizations. August 30, 2023, https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/rsv/index.html#print
- 2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Guide to infection prevention for outpatient settings: Minimum expectations for safe care. September 9, 2014. <u>https://www.cdc.gov/hai/settings/outpatient/outpatient-care-guidelines.html</u>
- Melgar M, Britton A, Roper LE, et al. Use of Respiratory Syncytial Virus Vaccines in Older Adults: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices — United States, 2023. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2023;72:793–801. DOI: <u>http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7229a4</u>
- 4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Healthcare Providers: RSV Vaccination for Adults 60 Years of Age and Over. August 30, 2023, <u>https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/rsv/hcp/older-adults.html</u>
- 5. Abrysvo (respiratory syncytial virus vaccine) [prescribing information]. New York, NY: Pfizer Labs; August 2023.
- 6. Arexvy (respiratory syncytial virus vaccine, adjuvanted) [prescribing information]. Durham, NC: GlaxoSmithKline; May 2023.
- 7. Beyfortus (nirsevimab) [prescribing information]. Swiftwater, PA: Sanofi Pasteur, Inc; July 2023.
- 8. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2024, July 3). *Frequently asked questions about RSV vaccine for adults*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <u>https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/rsv/hcp/older-adults-faqs.html</u>
- 9. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2024a, June 5). *RSV Vaccines*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <u>https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/vaccines/index.html</u>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2024c, July 3). *Healthcare Providers: RSV vaccination for adults 60 years of age and over*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <u>https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/rsv/hcp/older-adults.html#risk-factors</u>