

RSV Disease



What is RSV?

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) is a common respiratory virus that can cause serious illness in infants, young children, and adults ages 60 years and older.

People can get sick with RSV many times throughout their lives.

Symptoms of an RSV infection include cough, sneezing, fever, wheezing, and runny nose. Most of the time, it feels like a common cold. However, an infection with RSV can become more serious, leading to hospitalization and sometimes death.

Every year in the United States, RSV causes up to...

IN INFANTS:

**80,000 hospitalizations
100 to 300 deaths**

IN OLDER ADULTS:

**160,000 hospitalizations
6,000 to 10,000 deaths**

How does RSV spread?

Everyone is able to get RSV and spread it to others, no matter how old you are. Since RSV can feel like a common cold, you may not even know you're sick with RSV. Many people spread the virus without knowing.

RSV is spread when:

- An infected person coughs or sneezes
- You get virus droplets from a cough or sneeze in your eyes, nose, or mouth
- You have direct contact with the virus, such as kissing the face of someone with RSV
- You touch a surface that has the virus on it then touch your face before washing your hands

People infected with RSV are usually contagious for 3 to 8 days.

You can actually begin spreading the virus a day or two before having any symptoms.

Infants and people with weakened immune systems can keep spreading the virus (for up to a month) even after they don't have symptoms.

RSV can survive for many hours on hard surfaces such as tables, crib rails, and door knobs.

Protect yourself and your loved ones. Do your part to prevent the spread of RSV!

- Wash your hands with soap and water regularly
- Disinfect surfaces often
- Always cough or sneeze into your elbow
- If you are eligible, get vaccinated!

REMEMBER!

Infants and older adults can get very sick from an RSV infection.

Anyone can get sick with RSV and spread it to others.

RSV Vaccines

for adults ages 60 years and older



HISTORY OF RSV VACCINES

For decades, RSV has been a known threat to infants, young children, and older adults.

Research for RSV vaccines began in the 1960s.

In older adults, RSV causes up to 160,000 hospitalizations and 6,000 to 10,000 deaths each year in the United States.

In 2023, two RSV vaccines were approved for adults ages 60 years and older.

Abrysvo™ and Arexvy™

Abrysvo and Arexvy both work very well to prevent serious disease from RSV infections in people ages 60 years and older.

There is no official recommended preference for one vaccine over the other.

Everyone ages 60 years and older may receive one dose of an RSV vaccine.

Some people are at higher risk for getting really sick from an RSV infection.

Older adults at highest risk include those who also:

- Have a chronic medical condition, such as lung, heart, kidney, or liver disease
- Have a weakened immune system
- Live in a nursing home or other long-term care facility

If you are 60 or older, talk to your doctor or pharmacist to decide if an RSV vaccine is right for you.