



RSV

Respiratory Syncytial Virus



RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) is common: It is a virus that causes colds and breathing problems in babies and young children.



It spreads easily: Passes through coughs, sneezes and touching shared surfaces– just like the flu or a cold.



It can be serious: Most children have RSV by age 2, and it is the leading cause of hospital stays for babies in the U.S.



Oh Baby!
RSV Season is
October – March



WHO IS MOST AT RISK?

All children can get RSV, but severe illness is more likely in:

- Infants under 6 months old
- Premature babies
- Older adults (especially 60+) and those with chronic health issues are also vulnerable.
- Children with heart, lung, or immune system conditions
- American Indian and Alaska Native children

THE IMPACT ON COMMUNITIES



RSV affects many children every year especially babies.



2 million doctor visits



80,000 hospital stays



300 young lives lost



Black & Hispanic children are hit the hardest

Flip over to see how to protect yourself and your family from RSV



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RSV



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PROTECTION

Moms-to-Be should get the RSV vaccine at 32–36 weeks, between September to January to protect their babies.

Newborns should get a protective antibody shot while they are under 8 months old during RSV season (October– March).

Toddlers and high-risk children (8–19 months) may need another shot before their second RSV season.

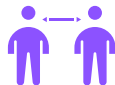
Learn more [here](#)



PREVENTION



Wash hands often and wipe down things people touch a lot



Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Do not smoke around children—it worsens RSV infections.



COMMON QUESTIONS



What RSV protection do babies get?

Babies get a shot (made of ready-made antibodies) that can help protect them.



Can moms and babies get RSV shots with other vaccines?

Yes. It's safe to get the RSV shot at the same time as flu and COVID-19 shots.



Do the shots work?

Yes!

- Mom's shot: helps lower severe RSV in babies by about 57%.
- Baby's shot: lowers severe RSV in babies by about 80%.



Are RSV vaccines and shots safe and paid for?

Yes they are safe, reactions are very rare. They are covered by most insurance, they can also be covered by programs, see [Vaccines for Children](#) for more information



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