

# RSV in Infants & Young Children

**RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus)** is a common respiratory virus that causes cold-like symptoms but can be severe for infants and older adults.

## Spread

RSV can spread:

- When someone with the virus sneezes or coughs,
- Through close contact with someone who is sick, and
- By touching infected surfaces and then touching your face without first washing your hands.

## Symptoms in Infants & Young Children

Symptoms may include:

- Fever;
- Runny nose;
- Eating or drinking less;
- Coughing;
- Sneezing;
- Wheezing; or
- Trouble breathing.

## Immunizations to Protect Infants and Toddlers

There are two options to protect infants and young children from RSV:

- An RSV vaccine given to a pregnant person. Protection is passed to the baby during pregnancy.
- An RSV immunization given to a child after birth.

RSV immunization is recommended between October 1 - March 31 for:

- All infants under 8 months of age if pregnant person was not vaccinated during pregnancy.
- Infants and toddlers 8-19 months at high risk for serious disease.

## Other Steps to Prevent RSV

- Wash hands often, especially after being in public places or around sick people.
- Keep newborns and young children away from people who are coughing, sneezing, or visibly ill.

## Treatment

- There is no specific treatment for RSV. Talk to a healthcare provider about steps to relieve your child's symptoms.
- In-hospital care may be needed if your child is having trouble breathing, not drinking enough fluids, or having worsening symptoms.



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