



To: CAHAN San Diego Participants  
 Date: November 27, 2023  
 From: Public Health Services

**Health Advisory Update #1: Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV): Shortage of RSV Monoclonal Antibody, Nirsevimab**

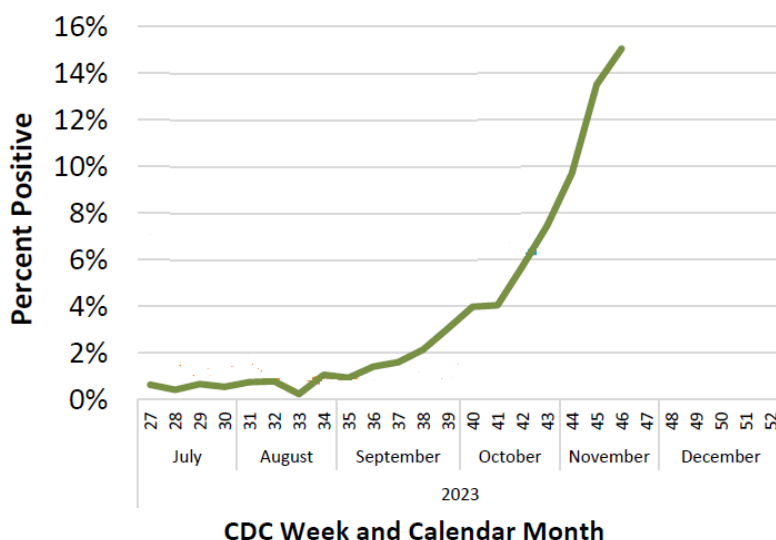
**Key Messages**

- Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) season is underway in San Diego County and testing positivity has increased to 15%.
- CDC recommends maternal RSV vaccination of pregnant patients at 32–36 weeks' gestation to prevent severe RSV disease in newborns and infants through 6 months of age.
- Maternal vaccination against RSV is especially important given the limited supply of the RSV monoclonal antibody nirsevimab.

**Situation**

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) testing positivity has increased to 15% since September (figure 1). Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) season has arrived San Diego County and cases are expected to continue increasing. Maternal RSV vaccination and infant immunization with the RSV monoclonal antibody, nirsevimab (Beyfortus™, Sanofi and AstraZeneca), are options, but [nirsevimab is in short-supply](#).

**Figure 1. RSV Testing Positivity by Week of Specimen Collection**



Source: Figure was prepared by County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services, Epidemiology and Immunization Services Branch 11/20/2023. Data are preliminary and subject to change.

## Background

To protect newborns from severe RSV disease, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends maternal vaccination with RSVpreF vaccine (Abrysvo, Pfizer). The vaccine is [approved for use](#) in pregnant patients, from 32–36 weeks gestation, to prevent severe lower respiratory tract disease caused by RSV in infants from birth through 6 months of age.

Maternal RSV vaccination is an alternative to the RSV monoclonal antibody nirsevimab for protecting infants against severe RSV disease. Most infants will likely only need protection from either the maternal RSV vaccine or nirsevimab, but not both. Given the [ongoing shortage of nirsevimab](#), prenatal care providers should [encourage maternal RSV vaccination](#) particularly when nirsevimab is unavailable.

## Actions Requested

1. **Encourage** maternal RSVpreF vaccine (Abrysvo, Pfizer) RSV vaccination of pregnant patients at 32–36 weeks of gestation. Maternal vaccination provides protection to newborns and infants through 6 months of age.

## Resources

### **National**

[Limited Availability of Nirsevimab in the United States—Interim Recommendations | CDC](#)

[RSV Vaccination for Pregnant People | CDC](#)

[Protecting Infants from RSV: Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity Webinar \(Recorded\) | CDC](#)

[Product information Abrysvo | FDA](#)

[ACOG, SMFM, and AAP Statement on Nirsevimab Shortage | ACOG](#)

### **Local**

[CAHAN: Limited Availability of Nirsevimab in the United States, October 26, 2023 | CoSD](#)

Thank you for your participation.

### **CAHAN San Diego**

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