

Every Mother Every Baby EVERY TIME

RSV IMMUNIZATIONS

WHAT TO EXPECT WITH RSV IN THE VERY YOUNG

Symptoms of RSV can include:

- Irritability
- Decreased activity
- Eating and drinking less
- Pauses in breathing for more than 10 seconds
- Bronchiolitis (swelling of the airways in the lungs)
- Pneumonia (infection of the lungs)

Infants under 6 months old may need additional support which can include:

- Oxygen
- IV fluids
- Mechanical ventilation (a machine that help with breathing)

PROTECT WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT

When the RSV vaccine is given between 32 weeks through 36 weeks gestation, the pregnant woman passes protective antibodies to their unborn child, providing protection up to 6 months of age.

Speak with your provider to find out if you should receive the RSV vaccine during pregnancy.

If you can **not** receive the RSV vaccine during pregnancy, talk to your baby's doctor about the RSV immunization for your newborn.

An RSV immunization is **recommended** for all babies **younger than 8 months** of age born to mothers who did **not** receive a maternal RSV immunization during pregnancy.

The RSV immunization **should** be given to babies shortly before the RSV season, or within 1 week after birth if born October through March.

An RSV immunization is also **recommended** shortly before the child's **second RSV season** for a small group of young children 8 through 19 months of age who are at increased risk for severe RSV.

WHAT KENTUCKIANS HAVE TO SAY ABOUT THE RSV VACCINE!

“If I had been offered the vaccine during pregnancy, I would have gladly taken it to have any extra protection for my baby until she was able to get it herself.

-Brandis
Kentucky mom, Rowan County”

“Pregnancy can be a thrilling, but nerve racking time. You are putting so much thought and effort into everything you do and weighing whether it is in the best interest of your baby. I was excited to be able to get my maternal RSV immunization towards the end of my pregnancy this fall. I would do anything to protect myself and my children from harm, and that includes fighting common diseases like RSV that can be deadly to babies.

-Catherine
Kentucky mom, Jefferson County”

“Knowing that I can get a vaccine now that protects both me and my little one - and it means one less shot for my baby later, there's no question.

- Taidem
Kentucky mom to be”



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WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT RSV

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) can be dangerous for infants and some young children.

Nearly every child will get RSV by the time they are 2 years old. Those **less than 6 months old** are at **greatest** risk for severe illness and hospitalization.

RSV spreads when an infected person coughs or sneezes near you, or has direct contact, like kissing or touching the face of your baby before washing their hands.



DID YOU KNOW?

RSV is the **leading** cause of infant hospitalization in the U.S., with an estimated 58,000 to 80,000 children under 5 hospitalized each year.

THINGS TO CONSIDER:

Currently, the RSV vaccine is not an annual vaccine. Only a single dose of the RSV vaccine is recommended.

If a pregnant woman received a maternal RSV vaccine during a pregnancy, they should **not** receive the vaccine during any future pregnancies.

EVERY MOTHER, EVERY BABY, EVERY TIME TOOLKIT



Learn more about the benefits of vaccinations during pregnancy by accessing the *Every Mother, Every Baby, Every Time* toolkit.

Scan the QR code or visit:

<https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dehp/imm/EveryMother,EveryBaby,EVERYTIMEParentToolkit.pdf>



REFERENCES

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (CDC). 2024. Immunizations to Protect Infants <https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/vaccines/protect-infants.html>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (CDC). 2024. RSV in Infants and Young Children <https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/infants-young-children/index.html>



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