

For BC Healthcare Providers

Adapted from BC Island Health MEDICAL HEALTH OFFICERS' NEWSLETTER August 22, 2025 No. 368
For the most up to date information check with your MHO

2. Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) immunization:

Nirsevimab, a long-acting monoclonal RSV antibody, will be available for eligible infants starting on September 1, 2025. Nirsevimab is administered in a single dose to protect for an entire RSV season (~October-April).

Most eligible babies will be provided with a dose before discharge from hospital after birth (starting 1 September 2025). For those who have already been discharged home, Nirsevimab can be administered at a local pediatric outpatient clinic or at their local public health unit. The referral form will be available on Pathways.

[Expanded 2025-2026 eligibility criteria for Nirsevimab](#)

First RSV season (i.e. born after 31 March, 2025) criteria:

- Prematurity
- infants born 28⁰ to 34⁶ weeks gestation
- infants born <28 weeks and discharged from hospital after 31 March 2025
- infants with chronic conditions involving the heart, lungs, gastrointestinal tract, nervous system, immunological compromise or with underlying genetic or metabolic disorders.
- Infants < 6 months of age who live in remote communities, with limited access to health services, isolated indigenous communities or congregate settings such as supportive Housing.

Second RSV season (i.e. <2 years old at the time of dosing) criteria include severe chronic lung disease, hemodynamically significant congenital cardiac disease, severe congenital anomalies, neuromuscular disease, cystic fibrosis with respiratory involvement and/or growth delay and Down Syndrome.

Maternal RSV vaccination:

- Nirsevimab is currently the first-line recommended immunization option to prevent severe RSV disease in high-risk infants.
- If the infant is not eligible for Nirsevimab, or if the pregnant person prefers, maternal RSV vaccination (RSVpreF/Abrysvo™) can be offered between 32⁰ and 36⁶ weeks gestational age.
- RSVpreF will protect the infant for their first 6 months of life when RSVpreF received at 32-36 weeks gestation, and at least 14 days passed between vaccination and birth
- While RSVpreF (~\$300) is not publicly funded for most individuals in BC, some may be covered by extended health benefits or FNHA reimbursement. It is available at select pharmacies.

[HealthLinkBC File #127 Respiratory syncytial virus \(RSV\) vaccine](#)