

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) in Infants and Children

Virtually all children get an RSV infection. Most of the time, RSV will cause a mild, cold-like illness, but it can also cause severe illness. Each year, up to 3% of infants with RSV are hospitalized.

Symptoms of RSV infection may include:



Cough



Runny nose



Irritability



Decreased activity



Eating or drinking less



Apnea



Two Ways To Protect Infants From Infection

Maternal vaccination. People who are between 32 and 36 weeks pregnant during September through January should get one dose of the maternal RSV vaccine to protect their babies.

Passive Immunity. Two RSV monoclonal anti-body products are available to help prevent severe RSV disease in infants and young children. One product is recommended for infants younger than 8 months whose mother was not immunized for RSV and two products for children 8 to 19 months old who are at increased risk for severe RSV disease.

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/index.html>

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