

SUBJECT: Adult RSV Program – Fall/Winter 2024/2025
Date: September 19, 2024
Pages: 2
To: Physicians, Hospitals, Long-Term Care Homes, Retirement Homes
From: Dr. Matthew Tenenbaum, Associate Medical Officer of Health

Publicly-funded RSV vaccine for the 2024/2025 Fall/Winter Immunization Programs is now available to order for your clients. Please refer to the [RSV Immunization Physician Advisory](#) (August 1, 2024) for additional details.

Vaccine Products

There are two available vaccine products authorized for individuals 60 years of age and older: Arexvy™ and Abrysvo™. Additionally, Abrysvo is authorized for pregnant individuals from 32-36 weeks gestational age. Both Arexvy and Abrysvo are effective against RSV A and B strains.

Comparison of RSV Vaccine Products

Manufacturer	GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) Arexvy™	Pfizer (Pfizer) Abrysvo™
Date of Authorization	August 4, 2023	December 21, 2023
Type of Vaccine	Adjuvanted recombinant protein subunit	Bivalent recombinant protein subunit
Dosage	1 dose (0.5 mL)	1 dose (0.5 mL)
Route of Administration	Intramuscular	Intramuscular
Indication	Individuals 60 yrs + to prevent lower respiratory tract disease (LRTD) caused by RSV.	Individuals 60 yrs + to prevent RSV-associated LRTD. Pregnant individuals from 32-36 weeks gestational age to prevent RSV-associated LRTD in their infants.
Number of Doses	One dose	One dose

Dose Recommendations

Evidence supports the use of a single dose of either Arexvy™ or Abrysvo™ to help prevent RSV disease in adults 60 years of age and older. Neither product is preferred over the other in this population.

Studies show multi-year protection. As such, if an individual received a dose of RSV vaccine during the 2023-2024 season, they do not need to receive another dose this season. The timing for subsequent doses is unknown at this time. Studies are ongoing to determine the duration of protection.

As per NACI, the RSV vaccine can be co-administered with other seasonal vaccines and is encouraged to help mitigate the impacts of the respiratory season.

Ordering Publicly-Funded Vaccine

RSV Vaccine is now available to order.

Adults 60 years of age and older can receive publicly-funded RSV vaccine if they meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Residing in long-term care homes or elder care lodges
- Residents of all retirement homes (NEW for 2024/2025)
- Patients in hospital receiving alternate level of care (ALC)
- Patients receiving hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis
- Recipients of solid organ or hematopoietic stem cell transplants
- Individuals experiencing homelessness
- Individuals who identify as First Nations, Inuit, or Métis

Orders for these individuals will be filled with either Arexvy™ or Abrysvo™ – depending on available supply.

Pregnant individuals from 32 through 36 weeks gestational age can also receive a publicly funded dose of Abrysvo™, which is the only RSV vaccine approved for this group. Abrysvo should be given when the infant is not expected to receive Beyfortus (RSV immunoglobulin).

Please use the [WDG Public Health Vaccine Portal](#) OR [visit our website](#) to complete a vaccine order form and fax to 519-823-4903.

Private Purchase of RSV Vaccines

People aged 60 years and older who do not qualify for the publicly-funded RSV vaccine can still purchase the vaccine at their pharmacy with a physician's prescription. Some private insurers may cover all or part of the cost of the vaccine. This dose can be administered by a pharmacist or a primary care provider.

Please do not order publicly-funded RSV vaccine for patients wishing to purchase it privately.

RSV Immunoglobulin for Infants

RSV immunoglobulin (Beyfortus) is expected to become available for order in mid-October. Additional information will follow at that time.

For more information, please contact:

Name/Title: Karen Mulvey, Manager Vaccine Preventable Disease Program
Email: Karen.mulvey@wdgpublichealth.ca
Website: www.wdgpublichealth.ca