

RSV (respiratory syncytial virus) infant immunisation program

Catch up immunisation available from March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AFTER DISCHARGE

Your baby is eligible to receive a medication known as Beyfortus™ (nirsevimab) which gives protection from severe respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) disease. Beyfortus™ will be available from mid-March 2025 from your local doctor.

Please contact your local doctor from 1 March 2025 to make an appointment to discuss the advice in this letter. Beyfortus™ is free for your baby and should be given before the start of the RSV season (usually around mid-March).

What is RSV

RSV is a common virus which can cause a lung infection called bronchiolitis. In small babies this can make it hard to breathe and to feed.

Why is my baby eligible?

Most infants admitted to hospital with RSV disease are otherwise healthy. Some, infants with certain medical conditions have a higher risk of severe disease. This includes:

- All premature infants born less than 37 weeks gestation
- All Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander infants
- Other vulnerable infants with certain medical conditions

What is Beyfortus™ (nirsevimab)?

Beyfortus™ is a medicine that can protect babies and young children against severe illness from RSV. Beyfortus™ is not a vaccine. It protects your baby by providing antibodies directly. These antibodies help your baby fight infection from RSV.

Beyfortus™ can be given administered safely with routine childhood vaccines.

Further information

For more further information about RSV infant immunisation visit

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/nirsevimab-parents-and-carers.aspx>

You can also speak with your doctor before your baby is discharged home.

Kind regards

NSW Health