

Advice for public and private hospital maternity services

Please distribute to all doctors, nurses, midwives and other staff in your service

1. From Monday 3 March 2025, nirsevimab (brand name BeyfortusTM), a long-acting RSV monoclonal antibody, will be available to order from the NSW State Vaccine Centre for the 2025 NSW RSV Prevention Program.
2. RSV activity is increasing in NSW.
3. Public and private maternity services should offer nirsevimab to newborn infants not protected by maternal vaccination or with risk factors for severe RSV disease as soon as nirsevimab doses are available in your service if feasible.
4. Continue to recommend a single dose of Abrysvo[®] to **all** pregnant women year round preferably at the 28-week antenatal appointment (recommended 28 to 36 weeks gestation) to protect infants against RSV from birth.

Commencement of the 2025 NSW RSV Prevention Program - infant nirsevimab program

- NSW Health has received an earlier than expected delivery of nirsevimab for the 2025 RSV Prevention Program.
- Ordering for the 2025 NSW RSV Prevention Program - infant nirsevimab program will now open from **9am on Monday 3 March 2025**, one week ahead of schedule (originally 10 March 2025).
- RSV activity is increasing in NSW.
- Where feasible, newborn infants (including those born before 17 March 2025) not protected by maternal vaccination or with risk factors for severe RSV disease should be offered nirsevimab before the program start date of 17 March 2025 as soon supply of nirsevimab is available in your service/facility.

Infants not protected through maternal RSV vaccination or with risk factors for severe RSV are recommended to receive nirsevimab (irrespective of maternal vaccination)

- NSW Health is funding nirsevimab for eligible infants and children to provide immediate protection from serious RSV illness for at least five months.
- All unprotected newborn infants should be offered nirsevimab prior to discharge from hospital.
- Children up to 24 months of age and children eligible for catch up will be able to access nirsevimab from their general practitioner (GP), Aboriginal Medical Service (AMS), and some community health centres.
- Clinical decision aids are available to determine an infant's eligibility to receive nirsevimab at birth or for children up to 24 months of age who remain vulnerable to severe RSV.
- Refer to the [NSW Health RSV Prevention Program - Clinician Guide](https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/respiratory-syncytial-virus.aspx) for further information and program resources at <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/respiratory-syncytial-virus.aspx>

Ordering

From **Monday 3 March 2025**:

- hospital pharmacies will be able to order nirsevimab on the [NSW Vaccine Centre](#) webpage. There may be ordering restrictions in place to manage initial supply.
- GPs, AMSs and community health centres can order nirsevimab for eligible children using the '*nirsevimab order form*' on the NSW Vaccine Centre web portal. One form for each child must be completed indicating the patient's eligibility to receive nirsevimab.

All pregnant women should be encouraged to be vaccinated with Abrysvo.

- Achieving high maternal RSV vaccination coverage will ensure all infants are protected from RSV from birth up to 6 months of age.
- All pregnant women are recommended to receive a single dose of Abrysvo® between 28 to 36 weeks gestation year-round; vaccine is free under the National Immunisation Program.
- Abrysvo® should be offered year-round at the 28-week antenatal appointment to ensure high level of antibodies are transferred to the baby before birth and maximise protection for babies who are born prematurely. If not given at 28 weeks, Abrysvo® should be given at the earliest next opportunity.

Further information

Additional information for clinicians about the RSV immunisation products and RSV Prevention Program is available in the NSW Health RSV Prevention Program - Clinician Guide at <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/respiratory-syncytial-virus.aspx>

Other Resources

- [NSW RSV Prevention Program - Frequently asked questions for health professionals](#)
- [Australian Immunisation Handbook respiratory syncytial virus at https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/contents/vaccine-preventable-diseases/respiratory-syncytial-virus-rsv](https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/contents/vaccine-preventable-diseases/respiratory-syncytial-virus-rsv)
- NSW Health [Vaccinations before, during and after pregnancy](https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/pregnancy-vaccinations.aspx) webpage at <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/pregnancy-vaccinations.aspx>
- [Respiratory syncytial virus \(RSV\) immunisation | NCIRS](https://ncirs.org.au/respiratory-syncytial-virus-rsv/respiratory-syncytial-virus-rsv-immunisation) including clinical FAQs, webinars and clinical guidance on RSV immunisation product administration errors at <https://ncirs.org.au/respiratory-syncytial-virus-rsv/respiratory-syncytial-virus-rsv-immunisation>