

Older adults eligible for NIP funded RSV vaccine (Arexvy®) from 15 May 2026

Advice for immunisation providers

Introduction of Arexvy® to the immunisation schedule

- From 15 May 2026, Arexvy®, a respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine, will be added to the National Immunisation Program (NIP) for older people.
- Adults aged 75 years and above, and Aboriginal people aged 60 years and above, will be eligible to receive a single dose of Arexvy® under the NIP.
- The [NSW Immunisation Schedule](#) will be updated to include Arexvy® for eligible cohorts.
- There are two RSV vaccines available for use in adults in Australia: Arexvy® and Abrysvo®. Abrysvo® is on the NIP for pregnant women. Arexvy must not be given to pregnant women.

Arexvy® supply and ordering

- Arexvy® will be available through general practice, community pharmacies, Aboriginal Medical Services, community health services, residential aged care homes and from NSW Health facilities.
- From 20 April 2026, immunisation providers will be able to order supplies of Arexvy® through the [NSW Vaccine Centre online ordering system](#). Delivery of the vaccine will commence on 4 May 2026. You can begin to administer the vaccine from 15 May 2026.
- For providers that don't have a vaccine account, please complete the [online vaccine ordering account registration form](#).

Administration

- **Arexvy® is not registered for pregnant women and must not be given in pregnancy.** A phase 3 trial of a vaccine candidate similar to Arexvy was terminated early due to a signal toward preterm birth.
- **Providers should advise their staff of the potential for confusion with Abrysvo®, which is recommended and funded in pregnancy under the NIP.**
- Arexvy® can be safely co-administered with other vaccines such as COVID-19, influenza (including adjuvanted influenza), Shingrix and pneumococcal vaccines and following infection with RSV.
- The need for subsequent doses of Arexvy® for older adults has not yet been established and further recommendations will be provided when evidence is available.

Efficacy and safety

- Arexvy® is effective at preventing severe lower respiratory tract infection in adults aged 60 and over, by approximately 90% in the first RSV season following vaccination, and a cumulative 70% by the third season.

- The common side-effects of RSV vaccines in older adults are local and generalised symptoms, including pain and redness at the injectable site, fatigue, headache and muscle pains. Most side effects are mild to moderate in severity and last only a few days.
- Further information about safety of RSV vaccines for older adults is available on the [NCIRS \(Frequently Asked Questions\) FAQ webpage](#).

More information

- [Australian Government RSV vaccine for older adults program advice for health professionals](#)
- [NSW Health webpage for RSV prevention for older adults](#)
- [NCIRS webpage for RSV immunisation](#)
- [The Australian Immunisation Handbook: RSV chapter](#)
- [NSW Health RSV fact sheet](#)