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Recommendations for the Use of the RSVpreF Vaccine in Pregnancy and Nirsevimab in Infants and Young Children in Alaska during the 2023–24 Respiratory Disease Season

March 19, 2024

Summary

This Health Alert provides updated recommendations for use of RSVpreF and nirsevimab in Alaska to protect against respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) hospitalization.

- RSVpreF: continue to administer through March 31, 2024
- Nirsevimab: continue to administer through April 30, 2024

Background on National Guidance

- The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended that RSVpreF vaccination during pregnancy should end January 31, 2024, acknowledging that jurisdictions could consider locally tailored recommendations, especially in areas known to have more unique circulation of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), such as in Alaska.
- ACIP recommended administration of nirsevimab in infants during the October through March RSV season, except in locations with historically different/unpredictable RSV seasons, such as Alaska.

Alaska RSVpreF (Abrysvo) Recommendation

- [A health alert](#) sent on January 26, 2024, recommended continuing to offer RSVpreF vaccination during 32–36 weeks of pregnancy until further notice.
- The Alaska Respiratory Syncytial Virus Workgroup recommends offering RSVpreF during 32–36 weeks of pregnancy through March 31, 2024.

Alaska Nirsevimab (Beyfortus) Monoclonal Antibody Recommendation

- The Alaska Respiratory Syncytial Virus Workgroup recommends continuing nirsevimab administration through April 30, 2024, extending the national guidance by 1 month to reflect the extended RSV season in Alaska.
- The Workgroup acknowledges that availability of nirsevimab is currently very limited nationally and in Alaska.
- Note that CDC makes an allowance for clinicians to offer nirsevimab before the start of the next season if they feel that the child may not return for a visit when nirsevimab would be recommended. Nirsevimab has been shown to protect against severe RSV disease for at least 5 months, and the ideal timing of administration may differ depending on the clinical situation and local circulation of RSV (<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/rsv/hcp/child-faqs.html>).

Additional Information

- The Alaska Respiratory Syncytial Virus Workgroup will continue to monitor the epidemiology of RSV and the available information about RSV prevention products to provide Alaska-specific guidance during future seasons.

Resources

- Alaska PHAN: [Recommendations for the Use of Respiratory Syncytial Virus \(RSV\) Vaccine in Pregnancy – Update for the Alaska 2023-2024 Season](#), January 26, 2024.
- Alaska SOE RSVpreF *Bulletin*: https://epi.alaska.gov/bulletins/docs/b2023_17.pdf
- Alaska SOE Nirsevimab *Bulletin*: https://epi.alaska.gov/bulletins/docs/b2023_14.pdf
- Alaska DOH Respiratory Virus Snapshot: <https://health.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/id/Pages/COVID-19/covidandflu.aspx>
- Alaska SOE RSV Webpage: <https://health.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/id/Pages/dod/rsv/default.aspx>
- CDC: [ACIP Evidence to Recommendations for Use of Pfizer RSVpreF in Pregnant People](#)
- CDC: [Healthcare Providers: RSV Vaccination for Pregnant People](#)
- CDC: [Frequently Asked Questions about RSVpreF \(Abrysvo\) Vaccine for Pregnant People](#)
- CDC: [Frequently Asked Questions About RSV Immunization with Monoclonal Antibody for Children 19 Months and Younger](#)