

August 2024

[Abryso keeping RSV low in pregnancy and older adults](#)
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Abryso keeping RSV low in pregnancy and older adults

	PREGNANCY	OLDER ADULTS
Indication	For pregnant individuals (32-36 wks gestational) , to prevent lower respiratory tract disease caused by RSV in infants from birth to 6 months of age. Needs to be given at least 2 weeks before birth to allow for transfer of protective antibodies.	For individuals age 60+ , to prevent lower respiratory tract disease caused by RSV NACI has not yet deliberated on the use of Arexvy or Abryso for older adults.
Efficacy	Reduce risk of infant hospitalization due to RSV, by 68% Reduce risk of having healthcare visit for RSV within 3 to 6 months of birth, by 57% and 51% respectively	Reduce risk of lower respiratory tract disease with 3 or more symptoms by 77.8%
Publicly funded vaccine	Ontario will cover Abryso for pregnant patients who will deliver near the start of or during 2024/25 RSV season	Information, including eligibility for the 2024/25 season will be made closer to fall 2024
Rare side effects	Preterm birth*, low birth weight, jaundice	Atrial fibrillation, Guillain Barre Syndrome, Miller Fisher Syndrome
Common side effects	Injection site reactions, headache, myalgia, fever, nausea, fatigue	
Dosing	0.5 mL IM (deltoid) x 1 Vaccination should be postponed in individuals suffering from an acute febrile illness. However, the presence of a minor infection, such as a cold, should not result in the deferral of vaccine.	
Allergens	Polysorbate 80 Latex-free	
Administration	Single-use vial, requires reconstitution with provided diluent Use within 4h after reconstitution	
Interactions	NACI suggests Abryso can be administered at the same time as, or at any time before or after other vaccines.	
Cost	With a prescription, it is available to purchase privately from pharmacies (\$280-300/dose). Pharmacists are authorized to administer the RSV vaccine.	

* This was not observed in high-income countries like Canada. It is unclear whether there is a causal relationship with the vaccine. By limiting vaccine administration to 32 through 36 weeks gestation the potential risk of preterm birth is reduced.²

References:

1. Pfizer. Abryso [[Product Monograph](#)]
2. NACI 2024. [Respiratory syncytial virus \(RSV\): Canadian Immunization Guide](#)
3. CDC 2023. [\[For Healthcare Professionals: RSV Vaccination for Pregnant People\]](#)
4. Ontario Ministry of Health (updated July 26, 2024). [RSV prevention programs](#).

Prevnar-20 and Vaxneuvance is now funded publicly – for some patients

Prevnar-20 and Vaxneuvance is now included in the publicly funded immunization schedule for Ontario to reduce invasive pneumococcal disease (IPD). However, publicly funded Prevnar-20 may not be available to some patients who agree to have their pneumococcal vaccines updated per NACI recommendations. An updated document of the Ontario immunization schedule including the new vaccines is pending.

NACI recommendations		Eligibility for publicly funded vaccine	
ADULT		Prevnar-20	Prevnar-20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age 65+ Age 50-64 with underlying medical conditions and/or risk factors for IPD Age 18+ immunocompromised 		Age 65+	High risk**
If no previous pneumococcal vaccine	Prevnar-20 x 1 dose; OR Vaxneuvance x 1 dose; then Pneumovax-23 x 1 dose, 1 yr later* OR Prevnar-13 x 1 dose; then Pneumovax-23 x 1 dose, 8 wk later	Yes	Yes
If only Prevnar-13 received	Prevnar-20 x 1 dose, 1 yr later*	Yes	Yes
If only Pneumovax-23 received	Offer Prevnar-20 x 1 dose, 5 yrs later	No	Yes
If Prevnar-13 and Pneumovax-23 received	Offer Prevnar-20 x 1 dose, 5 yrs later	No	No
PEDIATRIC		Vaxneuvance	Prevnar-20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age 6 wks to 4yrs, routine pediatric vaccination 			High risk**
If no previous pneumococcal vaccine	Offer Vaxneuvance OR Prevnar-20 series 1 or more doses depending on age	Yes	No
If incomplete Prevnar-13 series	Offer to complete series with Vaxneuvance or Prevnar-20	Yes	No
If completed Prevnar-13 series	No additional Vaxneuvance or Prevnar-20 recommended	No	No
PEDIATRIC		Vaxneuvance	Prevnar-20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age <18, at high risk of IPD due medical, environmental or living conditions 			High risk**
If no previous pneumococcal vaccine	Prevnar-20 series 1 or more doses depending on age	--	Yes
If incomplete Prevnar-13 series	Complete series with Prevnar-20	--	Yes
If completed Prevnar-13 and Pneumovax-23	Offer Prevnar-20 x 1 dose 8 wk after last Prevnar-13 and 1yr after last Pneumovax-23 dose	--	No

* Minimum interval 8 wks, if immunocompromised, or more time-effective schedule needed

** High risk for IPD as outlined in Ontario's Publicly Funded Immunization Schedules for Ontario

References

- NACI 2023. [Public health level recommendations on the use of pneumococcal vaccines in adults, including the use of 15-valent and 20-valent conjugate vaccines](#)
- NACI 2024. [Recommendations for public health programs on the use of pneumococcal vaccines in children, including the use of 15-valent and 20-valent conjugate vaccines.](#)
- Toronto Public Health (July 17, 2024, email communication). Changes to Ministry of Health's Pneumococcal Vaccine Program.

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