

## Beyfortus fortifying babies against RSV

Beyfortus (nirsevimab) will be publicly funded in Ontario for eligible infants during the 2024/25 RSV season. Like Synagis (palivizumab), Beyfortus is a monoclonal antibody approved to protect infants from RSV. Unlike RSV vaccines (Abrysvo and Arexvy), monoclonal antibodies are passive immunizing agents - binding to RSV viruses and blocking viral replication in the respiratory tract.

Indication	<p>For prevention of RSV lower respiratory tract disease in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Infants</b> during their first RSV season</li> <li>• <b>Children up to 24 months age</b>, who remain at risk for severe RSV disease</li> </ul> <p>NACI recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All infants, entering their first, or born during RSV season<sup>a</sup> (excluding low-risk infants with mother who received Abrysvo during pregnancy) should be offered Beyfortus</li> <li>• All infants and children (age ≤24 months) at increased risk of severe RSV disease (including infants with mother who received Abrysvo during pregnancy) should be offered Beyfortus</li> <li>• <b>Beyfortus is recommended over Abrysvo</b> due to Beyfortus' superior efficacy, duration and protection and available safety data.</li> </ul>
Efficacy	<p>Reduce hospital admission due to RSV by 81-83%<sup>1</sup>            Reduce medically attended visit due to RSV by 80%<sup>1</sup>            Expected onset of protection = immediate            Expected duration of protection = 5-6 months</p>
Common side effects	Rash, fever, injection site reactions <sup>1</sup>
Rare side effects	Hypersensitivity reactions No increased risk of severe adverse events in infants compared with placebo <sup>1</sup>
Dosing	<p>Infants &lt;5 kg; <b>50 mg IM</b> x 1 dose (purple syringe)            Infants ≥5 kg; <b>100 mg IM</b> x 1 dose (aqua/light blue syringe)            Children age ≤24 months at risk for severe RSV; <b>200 mg IM</b> x 1 dose (2 x 100mg injections)</p>
Administration	<p>IM preferably in anterolateral aspect of the thigh            Single use, pre-filled syringes            Stable at room temperature x 8hrs</p>
Allergens	Polysorbate 80 Latex-free
Interactions	May be given at same time, before or after other childhood vaccines, including influenza
Publicly funded program	<p><b>Eligible patients:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infants born in 2024, prior to RSV season</li> <li>• Infants born during 2024/25 RSV season<sup>a</sup></li> <li>• Children age ≤24 months, still vulnerable to severe RSV disease in their second RSV season:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ chronic lung disease, cystic fibrosis</li> <li>○ congenital heart disease, congestive heart failure, moderate-severe pulmonary HTN</li> <li>○ immunodeficiency</li> <li>○ Down Syndrome</li> <li>○ neuromuscular disease or airway anomalies impairing clearing of respiratory secretions</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Order vaccine (Toronto Public Health):</b>            Email orders to <a href="mailto:vaccineorder@toronto.ca">vaccineorder@toronto.ca</a> use the <a href="#">Toronto Provider RSV Vaccine Order Form</a> (updated Oct 2024)<sup>4</sup></p>
Patient resources	<p><a href="#">Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers</a> (PCMCH)  <a href="#">Fact Sheet for Parents and Expectant Parents</a> (PCMCH)</p>

<sup>a</sup> November-April (RSV season in Ontario)

### References:

1. NACI 2024. [Respiratory syncytial virus \(RSV\): Canadian Immunization Guide](#)
2. AstraZeneca 2023. Beyfortus [\[product monograph\]](#)
3. Ministry of Health (August 8, 2024). [Infants and high-risk children RSV prevention program guidance for HCP – Beyfortus](#)
4. Toronto Public Health Physician e-Newsletter (October 24, 2024). Publicly funded RSV prevention program for infants and high-risk children.