

ALL INFANTS NEED PROTECTION AGAINST A POSSIBLE SEVERE RSV INFECTION¹

WHAT IS RSV?

RSV (respiratory syncytial virus) is a common respiratory virus that **infects two out of three babies before their first birthday**.^{2,3}

RSV usually occurs in winter when temperatures are cooler and spreads easily.^{4,5} It is also significantly more contagious than the flu.⁶

In most babies, the virus causes only **mild symptoms, similar to colds**.^{7,8}

However, in some babies, it can get worse and lead to a more severe RSV illness including **lung infections**, which can make breathing difficult for babies.⁷⁻⁹



WHY IS RSV PREVENTION IMPORTANT?

Approximately **4 in 10 babies** who become infected with RSV may develop lung infections such as **bronchiolitis or pneumonia**.¹⁰

RSV is one of the **main causes of hospitalisation** in babies under 12 months of age.¹¹⁻¹³

It is difficult to predict which babies will develop severe RSV disease. Therefore, **any baby may be at risk of hospitalisation**.^{9,13}



RSV (respiratory syncytial virus)

References

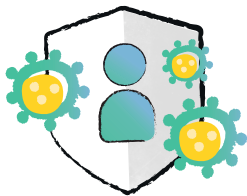
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THERE ARE ANTIBODIES THAT CAN PROTECT YOUR BABY FROM SEVERE RSV ILLNESS.^{1,6}

WHAT IS PASSIVE IMMUNISATION WITH RSV ANTIBODIES AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

Your immune system produces antibodies to fight infections and protect you from diseases.^{2,5} Newborns and very young babies can't produce RSV antibodies of their own, as their immune system is not yet mature enough^{3,4}

This is why there are pre-fabricated antibodies that can be directly administered to your baby. The antibodies start working right away and protect your baby without their immune system being activated – tell them your baby's bodyguards!^{1,3,5-7}



CAUTION: A passive immunization using antibodies is not like the vaccinations you might be familiar with, as the immune system needs to produce antibodies of its own when a vaccine is administered. This takes some time and doesn't yet work reliably in newborns.⁸

When and where will your baby receive RSV protection?

Birth between October and March: Your baby will receive the immunization at the hospital immediately after birth.¹

Birth between April and September: your baby will receive the immunization from your pediatrician, starting in October.³

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to learn
more



**RSV antibodies for all newborns
now available free of charge
in the Austrian children's
vaccination programme.⁸**



RSV (respiratory syncytial virus)

References

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