

Consent for Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Immunization

For use at Alberta Health Services (AHS) immunization programs.



Use this form **when an alternate decision-maker is not able** to be with the person being immunized at an AHS immunization service. *(An alternate decision-maker could be an agent, guardian, specific decision-maker or co-decision-maker.)*

The alternate decision-maker should complete this form and send it with the person being immunized. Alternate decision-makers must also provide a copy of the documents showing their legal authority to consent.

These documents are required for this person to be immunized.

Personal information *(of the person being immunized)*

Name *(Last, First, Middle)*

Date of Birth *(dd-Mon-yyyy)*

Personal Health Number

Health information for the person being immunized *(If you need more space, use Notes section on Page 1, Side B).*

Does this person have any allergies, including allergies to any vaccine, medicine, or food?

☐ No ☐ Yes ► List all allergies and reactions

Does this person have any chronic *(long-term)* health conditions?

☐ No ☐ Yes ► List all health conditions

Is this person taking any medicine?

☐ No ☐ Yes ► List all medicines

Has this person had RSV vaccine before?

☐ No ☐ Yes ► List dates of all doses

Has this person ever had an unusual or serious side effect from RSV immunization *(other than the expected side effects listed on the RSV vaccine information sheet)*?

☐ No ☐ Yes ► Describe

Consent

I confirm that I have read the attached RSV vaccine information.

- I know about and understand the risks, benefits, and common side effects of this vaccine.
- I know I can contact my local public health or community health centre or call Health Link at 811 if I have any questions. At the time of signing this form, I have no questions about this person getting this vaccine.
- I will contact my local public health or community health centre or the healthcare provider giving the RSV vaccine before this person gets any dose if their health changes.
- I understand the information I have been given.
- I confirm that I have the legal authority to consent to this person's immunization.

I consent to this person getting the RSV immunization.

- I understand that I may withdraw *(take back)* this consent at any time by calling the local public health or community health centre or healthcare provider giving this vaccine.

Name of Person Giving Consent *(print)*

Signature of Person Giving Consent

Date *(dd-Mon-yyyy)*

Relationship to Person

- ☐ Co-decision-maker
☐ Specific decision-maker

- ☐ Guardian/Legal Representative
☐ Agent

☐ Other _____

Daytime Phone

Other Phone



Person Being Immunized

Name (*Last, First, Middle*)

Date of Birth (dd-Mon-yyyy)

Personal Health Number

Phone/Fax Consent

Mode Consent was Received

☐ Fax/Scan☐ Phone

Name of Healthcare Provider obtaining the consent

Date (dd-Mon-yyyy)

Time (24hrs)

Signature of Healthcare Provider obtaining the consent

Consent Using an Interpreter *(for non-English speaking client)*

Interpreter's Name or ID # _____

Phone

Date (dd-Mon-yyyy)

Time (24hrs)

Notes (For Office Use, or if more space for health information is needed)

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Vaccine

Get protected, get immunized.

- Vaccines make your immune system stronger. They build antibodies to help prevent diseases.
- Immunization is safe. It is much safer to get immunized than to get these diseases.

What is the RSV vaccine?

The RSV vaccine protects against the RSV virus.

What is RSV?

RSV is a common infection that affects the airways and lungs, also called a respiratory illness. RSV mostly affects babies, young children, and older adults but you can get RSV at any age. It is usually mild but it can be more serious in young children, older adults, and people with certain health problems. You can get it more than once in your life. RSV season tends to start in late fall and last until spring.

RSV symptoms are usually mild cold-like symptoms that get better in 1 to 2 weeks. They include:

- runny nose
- feeling tired
- coughing
- not feeling hungry or not wanting to eat (poor appetite)
- sneezing
- sore throat
- headache

If RSV gets worse, symptoms may include:

- wheezing
- fever

In some cases, RSV can lead to a lung infection (pneumonia) or make other health problems worse.

How does it spread?

RSV can spread in the following ways:

- An infected person sneezes, coughs, talks, or even breathes.
- You breathe in the virus.
- You touch something that has the virus on it (such as hands or a door-knob), then touch your eyes, mouth, or nose.

RSV can live on surfaces for several hours. It can live on unclean hands for 30 minutes or more. You can spread RSV before symptoms start.

How can I stop RSV from spreading?

To stop RSV from spreading:

- Get the RSV vaccine if it is recommended for you.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unclean hands.
- Wash your hands with warm water and soap or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer often.
- Cover your cough or sneeze into your arm or a tissue, not your hand.
- Stay home when you are sick.

Who should get the RSV vaccine?

You can get this vaccine if you are age 70 years or older. RSV can make people in this age group very sick, especially if you have certain health conditions, such as:

- problems with your heart, lungs, kidneys, or liver
- diabetes
- a weakened immune system
- a condition that affects your nervous system
- obesity

If you are age 60 years or older, you can get this vaccine if:

- You live in a continuing care or supportive living facility.
- You are an Indigenous person.

If you had a dose of RSV vaccine in the past you do not need another dose.

If you are pregnant, ask your healthcare provider if RSV vaccine is recommended for you. In this case, the vaccine is not free of charge. You can check if your health insurance plan covers the cost.

How many doses do I need?

You need 1 dose of RSV vaccine.

You can get the vaccine anytime of the year, but it is best to get it before RSV season, which usually starts in late fall and lasts until spring.

At this time, more than 1 dose is not recommended. Research is ongoing to find out if you will need another dose.

How well does the vaccine work?

The RSV vaccine helps to:

- lower your risk of getting RSV
- lower your risk of getting very sick or needing care in the hospital if you get RSV
- stop RSV from spreading

There is more to learn about how long protection from the vaccine lasts.

See reverse for more information.

Where can I get the RSV vaccine?

If you are age 60 years or older and live in a continuing care or supportive living facility, you will be offered the RSV vaccine free of charge at your facility.

If you are age 70 years or older (or an Indigenous person age 60 years or older) and do not live in a continuing care or supportive living facility, you can book an appointment for RSV vaccine free of charge:

- Book online at a community pharmacy through the Alberta Vaccine Booking System at bookvaccine.alberta.ca.
- Call your local pharmacy to find out if they offer the vaccine.
- Call Health Link at 811.

Many pharmacies will also offer walk-in RSV immunization.

Call Health Link at 811 if:

- You do not have an Alberta personal healthcare card.
- You live in a community where there are no healthcare providers who give vaccines.

If you are not eligible to get the RSV vaccine free of charge, you may be able to pay for it at a pharmacy. Ask your doctor or pharmacist if it is right for you. You can check with your health insurance provider to see if they cover the cost.

Are there side effects from the RSV vaccine?

There can be side effects from the RSV vaccine, but they tend to be mild and go away in a few days. Side effects may include:

- redness where you had the needle that may look red on lighter skin or purple on darker skin
- swelling or feeling sore where you had the needle
- feeling tired
- a headache
- a fever
- body aches or sore joints
- feeling sick to your stomach (nausea) or loose stool (diarrhea)

At least 1 out of 100 people who got this vaccine reported 1 or more of these side effects. In some cases, it is unknown if the vaccine caused these side effects.

It is important to stay at the clinic for 15 minutes after your vaccine. Some people may have a rare but serious allergic reaction called anaphylaxis. If anaphylaxis happens, you will get medicine to treat the symptoms.

It is rare to have a serious side effect after a vaccine. Call Health Link at 811 to report any serious or unusual side effects.

How can I manage side effects?

- To help with soreness and swelling, put a cool, wet cloth over the area where you had the needle.
- There is medicine to help with a fever or pain. Check with your healthcare provider if you are not sure what medicine or dose to take. Follow the directions on the package.
- Some people with health problems, such as a weak immune system, must call their healthcare provider if they get a fever. If you have been told to do this, call your healthcare provider even if you think the fever is from the vaccine.

What if I had or I am getting another type of vaccine?

You can get other vaccines at the same time as, any time before, or any time after the RSV vaccine, including routine vaccines, influenza vaccine, and COVID-19 vaccine.

Who may not be able to get the RSV vaccine?

You may not be able to get this vaccine if:

- You have an allergy to any part of the vaccine. Be sure to tell your healthcare provider about any allergies you may have.
- You had a severe (serious) or unusual side effect after this vaccine or one like it.

If either of these apply, check with your healthcare provider before you get the vaccine.

Although you can get the vaccine if you have a mild illness, such as a cold or fever, it is best to stay home until you are feeling better to prevent spreading your illness to others.

I have a fear of needles. How can I prepare for my immunization?

Many adults and children are afraid of needles. There are things you can do before, during, and after immunization to be more comfortable.



Scan the QR code, visit ahs.ca/vaccinecomfort, or call Health Link at **811** for information.

For more information about immunization



Call Health Link at **811**



Scan the QR code or go to ahs.ca/immunize