Products available in Canada to protect against respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)

Product	Date approved for use in Canada	Product type	Administered by	Approved for
Palivizumab (PVZ) (please see note #1)	June 2002	monoclonal antibody medication (please see note #2)	injection	Newborns, infants, and children **up to 2 years of age** who are **at risk for severe RSV infection** (such as those born prematurely or who have a chronic lung disease)
Nirsevimab (please see note #1)	April 2023	monoclonal antibody medication (please see note #2)	injection	1. Newborns and infants who will be experiencing **their first RSV season** (RSV season in Canada is during the fall and winter months, which is when the virus is most active) 2. Children **up to 2 years of age** who are **at risk for severe RSV infection** (such as those born prematurely or who have a chronic lung disease)
Arexvy	August 2023	vaccine	injection	Adults 60 years of age and older (please see note #3)
ABRYSVO™	December 2023	vaccine	injection	Adults 60 years of age and older People who are 32 to 36 weeks pregnant (please see note #3 and note #4)

Note #1: PVZ and Nirsevimab are not used to treat RSV in children **already infected**. Rather, they are used to prevent severe RSV infection in infants and young children who may become infected with the virus in the future. These medications are **not vaccines**.

Note #2: Monoclonal antibodies are proteins that are developed to act like the **antibodies** your body produces. **Antibodies** are proteins your body makes that help get rid of germs/harmful substances that enter your body, such as bacteria and viruses. The monoclonal antibodies used in PVZ and Nirsevimab specifically recognize and target RSV to help prevent severe RSV infection. They provide temporary protection.

Note #3: Considerations are ongoing regarding other groups to whom RSV vaccines can be offered in the future. This chart will be updated accordingly.

Note #4: Getting the RSV vaccine allows your body to produce protective proteins called antibodies that **specifically protect against RSV infection**. When you get immunized against RSV while pregnant, you pass on some of these antibodies **to your baby** in the womb (in utero). These antibodies give your baby some **short-term protection** against the severe effects of RSV for up to 6 months after they have been born.

Note #5: Please keep in mind that product availability, and the eligibility criteria regarding who can receive PVZ, Nirsevimab, Arexvy, and ABRYSVO™ vary by province and territory.

February 2024