

ADVISORY: Infant & High-Risk Child RSV Prevention Program

October 24, 2024

Key Information

- Beyfortus is now available to be ordered from PPH
- Eligible residents include: infants born in 2024 who did not receive at hospital; vulnerable 2nd season children
- To order: www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/RSV-Vaccine-Order-Form-September-2024.pdf

Beyfortus Monoclonal Antibody

The monoclonal antibody, Nirsevimab (Beyfortus) 100mg to protect infants and high risk children from Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) infection is available for [order](#) from Peterborough Public Health (PPH) (order online at www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca/immunizations-and-vaccines). Until a robust supply of Beyfortus is available some order quantities may be reduced to ensure multiple providers have access.

Beyfortus 50 mg is not yet available, however the Ministry of Health anticipates it will be available by the end of this week. Locally, once Beyfortus 50 mg is available, PRHC will begin administration to newborns prior to hospital discharge. Primary care providers should administer Beyfortus to eligible infants who did not receive their dose at the hospital e.g., born in 2024 prior to the RSV season, parent declined for newborn in hospital and has changed mind, or vulnerable second season children (see eligibility criteria below). The Paediatric Outpatient Clinic at PRHC will be contacting their known eligible second season babies who meet the high-risk criteria and offering them appointments at POP Clinic. PPH will *not* be providing dedicated Beyfortus clinics however will see unattached babies in the Routine Immunization Clinic who are not eligible to access through the unattached PFHT Health Clinic/Well Baby Clinic.

Abrysvo Vaccine in Pregnancy

The vaccine Abrysvo (for pregnant people to protect their infants from RSV) is also available. Program eligibility includes pregnant people from 32 to 36 weeks gestational, in consultation with their health care provider.

The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) advises prioritizing the use of Beyfortus® for infant protection due to its effectiveness, long-lasting protection, and safety profile over vaccinating pregnant individuals. Therefore, Beyfortus® is the preferred method for safeguarding infants. Health care providers caring for pregnant people should provide information on vaccination and monoclonal antibody products. Guidance for health care providers can be found at www.ontario.ca/page/respiratory-syncytial-virus#section-3

Beyfortus Eligibility

Infants and children who are residents of Ontario and meet the following criteria are eligible for Beyfortus:

- Born in 2024 prior to the RSV season
- Born during the 2024 – 2025 RSV
- Children up to 24 months who remain vulnerable to severe RSV disease through their second season:
 - Chronic lung disease including bronchopulmonary dysplasia, requiring ongoing assisted ventilation, oxygen therapy, or chronic medical therapy in the six months prior to the start of the RSV season
 - Hemodynamically significant congenital heart disease requiring corrective surgery or are on cardiac medication for congestive heart failure or diagnosed with moderate to severe pulmonary hypertension
 - Severe immunodeficiency
 - Down Syndrome/Trisomy 21
 - Cystic fibrosis with respiratory involvement and/or growth delay
 - Neuromuscular disease impairing clearing of respiratory secretions
 - Severe congenital airway anomalies impairing the clearing of respiratory secretions

Dosing

Beyfortus Administration Guidelines for Infants and Children

Category	Weight	Dose	Timing
Infants born during the 2024/25 RSV season	< 5 kg	50 mg in 0.5 mL (100 mg/mL)	Administered from birth
	≥ 5 kg	100 mg in 1 mL (100 mg/mL)	
Infants born outside of the 2024/25 RSV season	< 5 kg	50 mg in 0.5 mL (100 mg/mL)	Shortly before the start of the RSV season
	≥ 5 kg	100 mg in 1 mL (100 mg/mL)	
Children at continued high-risk from RSV infection entering their second season	N/A	200 mg (two 1 mL injections of 100 mg/mL)	

For children undergoing cardiac surgery with cardiopulmonary bypass: [Beyfortus Guidance Table 2 pg 8](#)

More Information

Health Care Provider Guidance Documents:

- [Abrysvo - Infant RSV Guidance for Health Care Providers](#)
- [Beyfortus - Infant RSV Guidance for Health Care Providers](#)

Parent Handouts:

- [RSV Immunity Factsheet](#)
- [Abrysvo in Pregnancy Factsheet](#)
- [Beyfortus Factsheet](#)

For more information or to speak with an immunization public health nurse, call 705-743-1000 ext.242

Health Care Professional Alerts/Advisories from PPH:

PPH is transitioning all communication with HCPs to an email subscription using Mailchimp. Alerts will no longer be sent outside of Mailchimp. HCPs must [sign up](#) to receive alerts on this system.

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