

Answers to FAQs About RSV Vaccines

What do RSV vaccines protect against?

As of May 2024, three RSV vaccines have been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).¹⁻⁶

They are approved to protect against **lower respiratory tract disease (LRTD)**the most serious form of illness associated with RSV.^{1,3,5z}











Rapid breathing

- They are all approved for adults who are 60 years of age and older.^{1,3,5}
- One is also approved for adults who are 50 to 59 years of age and at increased risk for LRTD caused by RSV.¹ This includes individuals with lung disease, heart disease, and other chronic medical conditions.⁷⁸
- People should ask their healthcare provider about their risk for severe RSV-related disease and whether they should be vaccinated for RSV.





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How do the RSV vaccines work?

Current vaccines include RSV F protein or mRNA, which cause an immune response to the RSV F protein.^{1,3,5}





The immune response helps to prevent RSV from entering and infecting airway cells.^{1,3,5,7,8}









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When and how often is the RSV vaccine needed?

In most of the U.S., people should get the RSV vaccine in LATE SUMMER or EARLY FALL, before RSV starts to spread.^{7,8}





RSV vaccines can be given with other vaccines.^{7,8}







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How well does the RSV vaccine work?

In clinical trials, FDA-approved vaccines prevented severe LRTD due to RSV in 8 out of 10 cases.^{2,4,6,9}



How safe is the RSV vaccine? What are the side effects?

In clinical trials, side effects after RSV vaccination were usually mild. The most common side effects were:^{2,4,6,10}

- Pain, redness, and swelling where the shot was given
- Fatigue
- Fever

- Headache
- Nausea
- Diarrhea
- Muscle or joint pain
- A small number of serious inflammatory neurologic events, like Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS), have been reported with some of the vaccines, but it's not clear whether the vaccines increased the risk.^{1,3,5,9,10} The CDC and FDA are monitoring results of RSV vaccination to get more data to clarify questions about risk of GBS.^{9,10}





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Additional Resources:

- CDC adult vaccination assessment tool-to help determine whether a vaccine, such as the RSV vaccine, is right for you: <u>https://www2.cdc.gov/nip/adultimmsched/</u>
- CDC. Frequently asked questions about RSV vaccine for adults. <u>https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/rsv/hcp/older-adults-faqs.html.</u>
- Where to find vaccines: <u>https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/adults/find-vaccines.html</u>
- Affording vaccines
 - How to Pay for Vaccines: https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/adults/pay-for-vaccines.html
 - Vaccinate Your Family: <u>https://vaccinateyourfamily.org/paying-for-vax/</u>

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