

<p>IN THIS ISSUE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2024/25 Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) prevention program for infants and high-risk children Upcoming Beyfortus® learning session 	<p>FROM: Mary Choi MD MPH CCFP FRCPC Associate Medical Officer of Health</p>
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Key Messages:

- Beyfortus® (human monoclonal antibody) is now available to order for the 2024/25 respiratory season. Administration can begin as soon as you receive your order.
- Beyfortus® protects infants and young children from lower respiratory tract infections caused by RSV via passive immunization.
- Primary care and pediatric providers are strongly encouraged to order and administer Beyfortus® to eligible infants and young children born prior to the start of the 2024/25 RSV season.
- Report Beyfortus® adverse events to Health Canada using the Side Effect Reporting Form.
- Register for an upcoming Beyfortus® learning session.

- Born during the 2024/25 RSV season.
- Children up to 24 months of age who remain vulnerable from severe RSV disease through their second RSV season, following discussion with a health care provider, including:
 - chronic lung disease of prematurity (CLD), including bronchopulmonary dysplasia/chronic lung disease
 - hemodynamically significant congenital heart disease (CHD)
 - severe immunodeficiency
 - Down syndrome/Trisomy 21
 - cystic fibrosis with respiratory involvement and/or growth delay neuromuscular disease
 - severe congenital airway anomalies impairing the clearing of respiratory secretions

2024/25 Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) prevention program for infants and high-risk children

Beyfortus® (human monoclonal antibody) is now available to [order](#). Administration can begin as soon as you receive your order.

Beyfortus® protects infants and young children from lower respiratory tract infections caused by RSV via passive immunization. Co-administration of COVID-19 and influenza vaccine is strongly encouraged in infants 6 months of age and older.

Eligibility

Beyfortus® is publicly funded for administration in infants in the following groups:

- Born in 2024 prior to the RSV season (the National Advisory Committee on Immunization specifically recommends that infants 8 months of age or less be immunized).

As per the National Advisory Committee on Immunization, Beyfortus® is the preferred product to protect infants over vaccination in pregnancy based on its efficacy, duration of protection, and favourable safety profile.

Only one product (vaccine or monoclonal antibody) is recommended to protect infants from RSV and using both is unnecessary except in certain circumstances (high-risk infant born to a pregnant person who received the vaccine per recommended timing).

For additional information on Abrysvo™, the RSV vaccine approved for use in pregnancy, please refer to the previous [Health Professionals Update](#) (HPU).

Vaccine Availability

Infants born in hospital during the 2024/25 RSV season will be offered Beyfortus® at time of birth prior to discharge. **Primary care and pediatric providers are strongly encouraged to order and administer**

Beyfortus® to eligible infants and young children born prior to the start of the 2024/25 RSV season and to infants born outside of the hospital setting during the 2024/25 RSV season.

Peel Public Health will offer Beyfortus® at select clinics on a limited basis during the 2024/25 respiratory illness season for infants under 12 months born in 2024 and without a primary care provider. More information can be found on the Region of Peel [website](#).

Product Information

Beyfortus® is available in 50 mg and 100 mg pre-filled syringes for single use only.

A single dose of Beyfortus® is recommended based on the infant's weight at the time of administration:

- Infants < 5 kg: 50 mg in 0.5 mL (100 mg/mL)
- Infants ≥ 5 kg: 100 mg in 1.0 mL (100 mg/mL)

Higher dosing (200 mg dose given as two 1.0 mL at separate injection sites) is recommended for young children 12 to 24 months of age at continued high-risk from RSV infection in a second season.

Please refer to the [Infant RSV Guidance for Health Care Providers – Beyfortus®](#) for additional timing and dosing information.

Reporting Adverse Events

Unlike vaccines, monoclonal antibodies are not reportable under s.38 of the Health Protection Act.

- Report Beyfortus® adverse events to Health Canada using the [Side Effect Reporting Form](#).

Upcoming Beyfortus® webinar

A learning session is available to support implementation of Beyfortus® in your practice this coming RSV season.

Title: Introducing Beyfortus® in Primary Care

Speaker: Dr. Saul Greenberg, MD, FRCPC

[Webinar Registration - Zoom Oct 24 7:00-8:30pm](#)

This session is sponsored by Sanofi.

Resources

[Ministry: Respiratory Syncytial Virus \(RSV\) prevention programs - HCP guidance and fact sheets](#)

[National Advisory Committee on Immunization: Statement on the prevention of respiratory syncytial virus disease in infants](#)