

2024/2025 INFANT AND HIGH-RISK CHILDREN RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV) PREVENTION PROGRAM

INFORMATION FOR YORK REGION HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS AS OF OCTOBER 23, 2024

Beyfortus™ (nirsevimab), the new publicly funded monoclonal antibody that provides immediate, effective, and sustained protection to infants and high-risk children during the Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) season with a single dose, is now available for ordering from York Region Public Health (YRPH). As per National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI), **Beyfortus™ is the preferred approach for protecting infants against RSV**, with Abrysvo™, the vaccine in pregnancy, being available on a case-by-case basis.

BEYFORTUS™ ELIGIBILITY

Beyfortus™ is publicly funded for infants and children who are residents of Ontario and meet any of the following criteria:

- Born in 2024 prior to the 2024/2025 RSV season
- Born during the 2024/2025 RSV season
- Children up to 24 months of age who remain vulnerable to severe RSV disease through their second RSV season with:
 - Chronic lung disease of prematurity (CLD), including bronchopulmonary dysplasia requiring ongoing assisted ventilation, oxygen therapy or chronic medical therapy in the six months prior to the start of RSV season
 - Hemodynamically significant congenital heart disease (CHD) 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 clearing of respiratory secretions

Administration of both Abrysvo™ to the pregnant individual and Beyfortus™ to the infant is not necessary, except under specific circumstances. For the following infants whose parent received Abrysvo™ during pregnancy, Beyfortus™ should be administered to:

- Infants born less than 14 days after administration of Abrysvo™
- Infants who meet the medical criteria for increased risk from severe RSV disease
 - All premature infants (i.e., born < 37 weeks gestational age)
 - Chronic lung disease of prematurity (CLD), including bronchopulmonary dysplasia requiring ongoing assisted ventilation, oxygen therapy or chronic medical therapy in the six months prior to the start of RSV season
 - Hemodynamically significant congenital heart disease (CHD) 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 clearing of respiratory secretions

Ontario’s Infant and High-Risk Children RSV Prevention Program requires coordination across multiple healthcare channels to provide Beyfortus™ to eligible individuals effectively:

- Hospital administration of Beyfortus™ to newborns during the RSV season before discharge, ensuring immediate protection for in-season births.
- Primary care administration of Beyfortus™ to those born out-of-RSV-season or outside the hospital system (e.g., home births).
- Pediatric specialists, primary care providers, and outpatient hospital clinic administration of Beyfortus™ to children up to two years of age who are at continued high risk for severe RSV disease during their second RSV season.

BEYFORTUS™ PACKAGING, ADMINISTRATION, AND STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

Beyfortus™ is available in the following dosage strengths:

<p>50 mg/0.5 mL pre-filled syringe with a purple plunger rod</p>	
<p>100 mg/1 mL pre-filled syringe with a light blue plunger rod</p>	

Prior to administration, immunizers must check the label on the carton and pre-filled syringe to ensure the correct strength is selected. Beyfortus™ should be administered intramuscularly and can be co-administered with routine childhood or seasonal vaccines, including influenza and COVID-19.

Similar to publicly funded vaccines, Beyfortus™ must be stored in a refrigerator between +2.0°C and +8.0°C and kept in its original carton to protect from light. Once removed from the refrigerator, Beyfortus™ should be administered immediately.

BEYFORTUS™ TIMING AND DOSING

The RSV season is generally from November to April, peaking in December. You may immediately start to administer Beyfortus™ to eligible patients upon receiving the product. Infants born during the RSV season should be offered Beyfortus™ before discharge from care/hospital.

Eligible Population	Recommended Time of Administration	Weight At Administration	Dose
Infants born during the current RSV season	From birth	<5 kg	50 mg (0.5 mL)
		≥ 5 kg	100 mg (1 mL)

Infants (up to 12 months of age) born in 2024 before the start of the current RSV season	Shortly before the start of the RSV season	< 5 kg	50 mg (0.5 mL)
		≥ 5 kg	100 mg (1 mL)
Children over 12 months and up to 24 months of age and at continued high-risk from RSV infection	Shortly before the start of their second RSV season	N/A†	200 mg* *Given as two x 100mg (1mL) injections †If a child weighs < 10 kg, consideration can be given to administering 100 mg (1 mL)

HOW TO ORDER BEYFORTUS™

Orders for Beyfortus™ 50mg and 100mg products can be submitted using the attached order form. Email completed order forms to vaccineinventory@york.ca along with the most current five business days of refrigerator temperature logs.

To ensure equitable distribution, the number of doses received may be adjusted due to current provincial and local supply. You will be notified by telephone or e-mail when your order is ready for pickup.

RESOURCES

For Healthcare Providers:

- [Ministry of Health Respiratory Syncytial Virus \(RSV\) Prevention Programs](#)
- [Chief Medical Officer of Health's Letter to Health Care Providers re: Ontario's 2024-2025 Infant and High-risk Children RSV Prevention Program](#)
- [Infant and High-risk Children Respiratory Syncytial Virus \(RSV\) Prevention Program Guidance for Health Care Providers - Beyfortus® \(nirsevimab\)](#)
- [Infant and High-Risk Children Respiratory Syncytial Virus \(RSV\) Prevention Program Guidance for Health Care Providers - Abrysvo™](#)
- [Beyfortus™ Product Monograph](#)
- [Abrysvo™ Product Monograph](#)

For Vaccine Recipients:

- [Respiratory Syncytial Virus \(RSV\) Fact Sheet](#)
- [Infant and High-risk Children Respiratory Syncytial Virus \(RSV\) Prevention Program - Immunity, Monoclonal Antibodies and Vaccination Fact Sheet](#)
- [Infant and High-risk Children Respiratory Syncytial Virus \(RSV\) Prevention Program - Monoclonal Antibody for Infants and High-risk Children Fact Sheet](#)
- [Infant and High-risk Children Respiratory Syncytial Virus \(RSV\) Prevention Program - Vaccine for Pregnant Individuals Fact Sheet](#)

CONTACT YORK REGION PUBLIC HEALTH

For more information on RSV product ordering, or storage and handling, contact our Vaccine Inventory Program at vaccineinventory@york.ca, call 1-877-464-9675 ext. 74033, or visit us at york.ca/vaccineinventory.