



GET THE BASICS

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RSV Vaccines for Older Adults (60+)

Respiratory syncytial virus, or RSV, is a virus that causes infections of the lungs and breathing passages. It is highly contagious (easy to get from other people). In older adults, RSV is a common cause of a lung disease which can cause life-threatening pneumonia. The RSV vaccine can help older adults at risk of RSV.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that adults 60 years old or older should work with their healthcare professional to decide whether to get the RSV vaccine.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends:

- Adults 75 years old or older should receive the RSV vaccine.
- Adults 60-74 years old who are at increased risk for severe RSV should also receive the vaccine. Your healthcare professional will consider your risk factors for getting seriously sick from RSV when helping you decide whether to get the vaccine.

It is best to get your shot in the fall. If you did not get vaccinated in the fall, you can—and should—get the RSV shot at any time of the year.

Coverage for an RSV vaccine varies:

- RSV vaccines are covered by Medicare Part D
- RSV vaccines may not be currently covered by Medicare Part B
- Private insurers can individually decide whether to cover the RSV vaccine

Vaccines are available at many locations:

- Most drug stores
- Community health centers
- Ask your doctor or healthcare professional

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The AGS Health in Aging Foundation is dedicated to improving the health, independence, and quality of life of all older people. We aim to empower older adults and caregivers to actively participate in their health care and decision-making.

DISCLAIMER: This information is not intended to diagnose health problems or to take the place of medical advice or care you receive from your physician or other healthcare provider. Always consult your healthcare provider about your medications, symptoms, and health problems. November 2024
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