Government of Western Australia
Department of Health

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Immunisation 2026

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Agenda

1. The 2026 WA Health RSV Immunisation Program
2. Arexvy, Abrysvo and Beyfortus
3. Authority to immunise (SASA)
4. Reporting requirements
5. Education Requirements
6. Resources

2026 WA Health RSV Immunisation Program

Program	Eligible cohorts	Provider group	Start and end date of program
Adult vaccination (Arexvy) Currently State funded	• Residential Aged Care Homes (RACH) residents aged ≥65 years	GPs, WACHS, AMS, pharmacies	Commencing May 2026
Maternal vaccination (Abrysvo) NIP funded	• Expectant mothers between 28-36 weeks of pregnancy (≥ 2 weeks before delivery)	GPs, WACHS, AMS, Antenatal hospitals, pharmacies	All year round
Infant immunisation (Beyfortus® (nirsevimab)) State funded	• Irrespective of the mothers' RSV vaccination status, babies who were born between 1 October and 31 March will be recommended to receive Beyfortus between 1 April and 30 June, prior to their first peak RSV season • MRC and/or Aboriginal children entering their second RSV season	GPs, WACHS, AMS, Antenatal hospitals, pharmacies	1 April and 30 June 2026
Newborn cohort	• Babies born in WA between 1 April 2026 and 30 September 2026	Antenatal hospitals	1 April to 30 September 2026

Arexvy

- Commencing in May 2026, Arexvy will be funded for
  - Individuals in residential aged care, people aged 60 years and over
- Providers will be able to order via Onelink when the vaccine is available
- Ordering limits will apply
- Arexvy is not included in the National Immunisation Program (NIP) for pregnant women. Arexvy must not be administered to pregnant women.

Abrysvo

- Abrysvo is funded on the NIP
- Is recommended for all expectant mothers between ≥ 28 weeks of pregnancy (≥ 2 weeks before delivery)
- Available year round

⚠ NIP funded stock - maternal vaccination only

Beyfortus (nirsevimab) – monoclonal antibody

- Beyfortus is funded by the WA Department of Health.
- The 2026 Infant Program commences 1 April 2026 and is available until 30 September 2026.
- Available to eligible neonates and infants at birth or under a catch-up program
- Providers will be able to order via Onelink in March
- Ordering limits apply

⚠ ONLY available through the WA Infant and Maternal RSV Immunisation Program - not available privately

Authority to immunise - SASA

- The WA Immunisation Schedule will be updated to include Arexvy and details of 2026 Program
- CEO of Health Structured Administration Supply Arrangements (SASAs) allow Community Pharmacists, RNs, ENs, Midwives and AHPs to administer medicines and vaccines in accordance with the SASA
- In all other instances, these health professionals must receive a direction from a prescriber to administer Arexvy, Abrysvo and Beyfortus.

Education requirements

All providers are recommended to complete the online RSV education module

Immunisation Provider group	Education Requirements to meet SASA criteria
Registered and Enrolled Nurses	1. AHPRA registered 2. SA Health Immunisation Learning Courses or an equivalent recognised course 3. Online WA Health RSV module, cold chain management module and Immunisation Update module 4. Competent in CPR and anaphylaxis treatment
Registered Midwives	1. AHPRA registered 2. SA Health Immunisation course for Midwives or an equivalent recognised course 3. Online WA Health RSV module, cold chain management module and Immunisation Update module 4. Competent in CPR and anaphylaxis treatment
Aboriginal Health Workers and Practitioners	1. AHPRA registered 2. HESA immunisation course or an equivalent recognised course by the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Health 3. WA Health Immunisation course 4. Online WA Health RSV module, cold chain management module and Immunisation Update module 5. Competent in CPR and anaphylaxis treatment
Community Pharmacists	1. AHPRA registered 2. HESA immunisation course or an equivalent recognised course by the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Health 3. WA Health Immunisation course 4. Online WA Health RSV module, cold chain management module and Immunisation Update module 5. Competent in CPR and anaphylaxis treatment

Consent process

- WA Health has created materials to assist with obtaining informed consent, which is available here:

- The Beyfortus consent form is the same as last year. Its use is not mandatory, and it is up to the provider whether to use the forms or to use your practice software.

- WA Health providers are reminded that Mandatory Policy MP 0175/22, “Consent to Treatment” states that for informed decision-making to occur, health practitioners must ensure that “other treatment options (including having no treatment) are discussed as relevant.” Therefore, when seeking consent for Abrysvo, pregnant women should be informed that immunising their newborn with Beyfortus at the time of birth or prior to RSV season are alternative options to maternal RSV vaccination.

Reporting requirements

Australian Immunisation Register (AIR)

- All RSV encounters must be recorded in the AIR:
  - Arexvy - AREXVY
  - Abrysvo – ABRSV
  - Beyfortus – BFRSV
- Maternal flag in AIR (introduced in 2025)

- Useful information for using AIR

  Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) - Health Professional Education Resources (servicesaustralia.gov.au)

  Using the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) | NCIRS

Other

- Continue to record in STORK and/or other maternal database(s) as relevant

Vaccine Safety Surveillance

1. Passive adverse event reporting
   - Report all adverse events to the WA Vaccine Safety Surveillance (WAVSS) system
   - About Western Australia - SAFEVAC Reporting
   - AND via your organisations' other incident reporting requirements (as relevant)

2. Active surveillance
   1. SmartVax
   2. Data linkage case finding

See also:
Adverse event following immunisation (AEFI) (health.wa.gov.au)

Subscribe to Vaccine Updates

- You can find more information by scanning the QR code below:

health.wa.gov.au

Websites

Healthy WA - consumer websites

- Respiratory Syncytial Virus
- Respiratory Syncytial Virus Immunisation
- Protecting our kids from RSV

WA health – provider websites

- Respiratory Syncytial Virus
- Respiratory Syncytial Virus Immunisation
- RSV Infant Immunisation Program

Questions?