

IMPACT OF RSV ON YOUR FAMILY

Respiratory Syncytial Virus, or RSV, is a common virus that affects nearly 100% of babies by the age of 2.1



RSV usually causes mild to moderate cold-like symptoms, but in some babies, it can cause a serious infection.²



Premature babies, those born earlier than 35 weeks gestation, are at high risk for developing severe RSV disease due to their underdeveloped lungs and immature immune systems.^{3,4,5,6} Among preterm infants 29–35 wGA who did not receive immunoprophylaxis, RSV disease can be severe, often resulting in intensive care unit admission and need for mechanical ventilation, particularly during the first 6 months of life.7





Severe RSV disease is the leading cause of infant hospitalizations in the US, with approximately 125,000 hospitalizations and up to 200 infant deaths each year.8,9,10,11

RSV season usually occurs from November through March for most of the US, but can vary regionally and from year to year.²



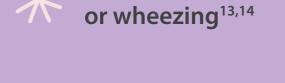


When a child gets RSV, it affects the entire family.

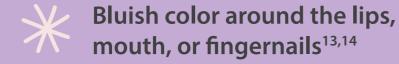




Although one-third of mothers have never heard of RSV, all parents should know the signs and symptoms of severe RSV disease, including 12,13: **Persistent coughing** Rapid, difficult,



or gasping breaths^{13,14}



100.4°F [rectal] in infants under 3 months of age)^{13,14}

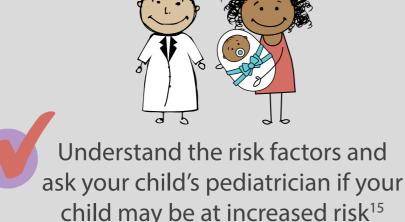
Fever (especially if it is over





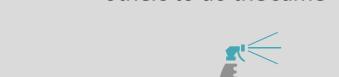
treatment specific for RSV disease, prevention is critical. All parents should:

Since there is no

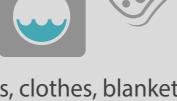


child may be at increased risk15











and sheets clean¹⁵



LEARN MORE

PARENTS SHOULD SPEAK TO THEIR HEALTH CARE PROVIDER TO LEARN HOW TO KEEP THEIR BABY SAFE THIS RSV SEASON.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT RSV AND PREVENTION, VISIT

RSVPROTECTION (

http://www.merckmanuals.com/home/children-s-health-issues/symptoms-in-infants-and-children/fever-in-infants-and-children?qt=&sc=&alt=%5B7/8/2013%202:16:48%20PM%5D. Accessed June 24, 2015.

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