



# WA Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Immunisation Programs

## Non-clinical RSV immunisation program FAQs

For clinical queries, refer patients to their healthcare provider.

### 1. What are the different types of RSV immunisations?

#### Abrysvo (maternal vaccine)

Pregnant people are recommended to get free Abrysvo from 28 weeks of pregnancy. Outside of this time frame refer them to their healthcare provider.

#### Beyfortus (infant immunisation)

The following children are eligible for free Beyfortus:

- infants born between 1 April and 30 September 2026 if:
  - they have a medical risk condition
  - their mother was immunosuppressed while pregnant
  - their mother received Abrysvo less than 2 weeks prior to delivery, or was not vaccinated in pregnancy
- all infants born between 1 October 2025 and 31 March 2026
- Aboriginal children and/or children with a medical risk condition born between 1 October 2024 and 30 September 2025.

#### Arexvy (older adults vaccine)

The following adults are eligible for Arexvy:

- aged 75 years and over
- aged 60 years and over and are Aboriginal

- aged 60 to 74 years
  - living in a residential aged care home
  - receiving Commonwealth Support at home\*
  - living in specialist disability accommodation (SDA)\*\*
  - in residential mental health services
  - experiencing homeless
  - in a correctional facility
- aged 50 to 59 years **in one of the above settings** and
  - are Aboriginal or
  - have a risk factor for severe RSV disease.

\*Excludes persons on Support at Home waitlist and those on Commonwealth Home Support Package (CHSP)

\*\*Excludes persons on SDA waitlist or receiving supported independent living (SIL)

### 2. Why are persons on a Commonwealth Home Support Package (CHSP) excluded?

As defined by the Commonwealth Department of Health, Disability, and Ageing, [CHSP](#) provides entry-level support for older people living at home. As it is not intended for people with intensive or complex care needs, CHSP recipients are therefore less likely to be at risk of severe RSV-related illness compared to other funded cohorts in the state program.

### 3. Why are persons who receive Support at Home considered to have increased risk of RSV illness?

The [Support at Home](#) program delivers government-funded aged care services to help older people stay in their home. People eligible to receive Support at Home are more likely to have medical conditions which place them at higher risk for severe RSV-related illness and may experience various barriers to accessing support.

### 4. What is specialist disability accommodation?

[Specialist disability accommodation](#) (SDA) is a range of housing available under the NDIS to support people with extreme functional impairment and/or very high support needs. SDA is often a home with a small number of other people, each having their own private bedroom and shared living spaces (congregate living). People [eligible for SDA](#) will have this included in their NDIS plan and funding.

### 5. Who are considered vulnerable people under the state RSV program?

Under the WA RSV Vulnerable Older Adult (VOA) Vaccination Program, 'vulnerable people' are those at most risk of RSV illness due to living in group settings (congregate living) or having low immunisation coverage caused by limited access to healthcare. These groups are specified in the [WA Immunisation Schedule](#).

### 6. What if a person in a Residential Aged Care Home (RACH) is not a permanent resident?

All persons aged 60 to 74 years, and persons aged 50 to 59 years with medical risk conditions, staying at a RACH, including as respite and Time to Think clients, are eligible for the state-funded RSV VOA vaccination program, regardless of being a permanent resident.

### 7. Were can patients get these immunisations?

#### Pregnant women (Abrysvo):

Available at GP clinics, pharmacies, maternity hospitals, community health immunisation centres and Aboriginal medical centres.

#### Infants and children (Beyfortus):

Available at GP clinics, maternity hospitals, community health immunisation centres and Aboriginal medical centres, but not pharmacies.

#### Older adults (Arexvy):

Available at aged care homes, GP clinics, pharmacies, community health immunisation centres and Aboriginal medical centres. RSV immunisations can be booked and administered during a regular appointment.

### 8. Why is the eligibility of the state RSV program so specific?

The WA RSV VOA Vaccination Program aims to expand the National Immunisation Program (NIP)-funded RSV eligibility to support those at most risk of severe RSV related illness and hospitalisation.

### 9. Do I need to ask for evidence of eligibility for the WA RSV VOA Vaccination Program?

Persons receiving Support at Home, should have a [Notice of Decision](#) letter called the 'Outcome of your application for government-funded aged care services'. This notice can act as evidence of their eligibility, should it be required.

### 10. Can a baby receive other vaccines at the same time as Beyfortus?

Yes, it can be given at the same time as other childhood vaccines.

## Can a pregnant person receive other vaccines at the same time as Abrysvo?

Yes, it can be given at the same time as other antenatal vaccines, for example influenza and whooping cough vaccines.

## 11. Do pregnant people need to bring any documents to an appointment to get the Abrysvo vaccine?

It is recommended that they bring their Handheld Pregnancy Record.

## 12. Can an older person receive other vaccines at the same time as Arexvy?

Yes, it can be given at the same time as other routine vaccines, for example pneumococcal, influenza and shingles vaccines.

## 13. Can patients get a Beyfortus Immunisation if they are sick?

If the patient or patient's child is unwell on the day of their vaccination appointment, refer them to the practice nurse or other healthcare provider for advice.

## 14. How can patients report side effects?

If the patient or patient's child is having a reaction to the vaccine, refer them to the practice nurse or other healthcare professional for advice.

- For serious reactions (e.g. breathing issues, severe swelling) – advise them to see a doctor or call 000 if it is an emergency.
- In WA, potential vaccine reactions can be reported to the [WA Vaccine Safety Surveillance System](#) at (08) 6456 0208.

This document can be made available in alternative formats.

## 15. What if I'm not eligible for a government-funded RSV vaccine?

RSV vaccines for older adults can be accessed via private prescription, and will cost around \$300, excluding consultation fees.

## 16. Where can patients get more information?

- [HealthyWA 2026 Respiratory Syncytial Virus \(RSV\) immunisation](#)
- Refer them to their immunisation provider.

## 17. After a patient has been immunised, where can they find a record of this?

- [My Health Record](#) in [MyGov](#)
- visiting a Medicare or Centrelink office
- calling the [AIR](#) enquiries line on 1800 653 809 for a statement to be posted.

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