

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Vaccination FAQs (Primary Care)

(Updates are shown in yellow highlight)

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Documentation links

The following RSV documentation has been published:

- Green Book chapter:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/respiratory-syncytial-virus-the-green-book-chapter-27a>
- Guidance documents and training slide set for health care professionals:
 - [RSV Programme Information for Healthcare Professionals](#)
 - [RSV older adults' vaccination programme slide set](#)
 - [RSV maternal vaccination programme slide set](#)
 - [Patient Group Directions Y & H](#)
 - [RSV special edition of Vaccine Update](#)
 - [E-lfh immunisation](#) -Contains a vaccine preventable diseases section which now includes an RSV overview

GP contract

Routine NHS-funded vaccinations and immunisations are delivered as essential services under the GP Contract from the 1 September 2024, the RSV vaccination programme will be included. There is no expectation that there will be any additional specifications or local commissioning requirements for this routine programme.

- Practices will be responsible for proactively inviting individuals for their vaccine when they become eligible (i.e. from an individual's 75th birthday).
- Practices will also be responsible for proactively inviting individuals aged 75-79 years on 31 August 2024 as soon as possible. The expectation is that the catch-up activity (for adults aged 75-79 years old as of 31st August 2024) is undertaken at the earliest opportunity with the majority completed in the first 12 months of the programme.
- To offer the best protection, we are asking providers to vaccinate as many people as possible during September and October 2024 prior to the expected RSV season.
- From 1 September 2024, practices are required to offer and provide RSV vaccination to all eligible registered patients from 28 weeks of pregnancy either opportunistically or on request. They will remain eligible until birth (after 36 weeks the vaccine is prescribed off-label). Where a practice is aware of a patient's pregnancy and there is no RSV vaccination in their medical record, it would be clinical best practice to check with the patient whether they have been vaccinated and offer this vaccination given the importance of protection to the infant. One dose of RSV vaccine is to be administered per pregnancy.

Under the terms of the Network Contract DES, practices will be able to collaborate within their Primary Care Networks to provide vaccination during core and enhanced hours to their collective registered population, including their collective registered population residing in care homes.

Important information is contained in the contractual guidance (link below).

This sets out the RSV vaccination programme requirements for practices. It provides practices with information on the eligible cohorts, clinical codes required to record RSV vaccination events and outlines how payments will be supported through the General Practice Extraction Service (GPES) and Calculating Quality Reporting Service (CQRS).

[NHS England » General practice respiratory syncytial virus \(RSV\) vaccination programme: contractual guidance](#)

Recording of vaccination

GP Practices should ensure RSV vaccination events are recorded onto their GPIT system in line with all other routine vaccinations

Call to Action – GP practices to stop all manual recording processes to capture pertussis vaccinations given by maternity services from 1 September

From 1 September, maternity services will be using Record a Vaccination Service (RAVS) to record Pertussis and RSV. Recording in RAVS will enable vaccination events to automatically flow to the GP patient record, as is in place for COVID and flu. This means where pertussis vaccinations are given by another healthcare provider and recorded in RAVS, from 1 September, GPs will no longer need to manually add these events to the patient record.

The exact time when these vaccination events will be visible in the GP patient record will depend upon GP IT system supplier development. It is anticipated these vaccination events will be visible no later than 11 October, at which point any vaccinations given from 1 September will flow.

To note, GP practices administering RSV and pertussis vaccinations to pregnant women will not be required to use RAVS but will continue to record these vaccinations using their usual GP IT system. Additionally, there will be no changes to the flow of pertussis vaccination data from practices onto Immform for reporting purposes.

Women are required to have a handheld personal record (either in paper or electronic form) Vaccinations will need to be recorded on these personal records by the vaccinator (Gp or Maternity) to maintain the completeness of the maternity record. Please follow your routine process for utilising these records.

This information has also been shared with Maternity Providers

Payment mechanism

The Statement of Financial Entitlements (SFE) will be updated in due course to include RSV at the standard item of service fee.

Payments will be supported by GPES and CQRS for the adult programmes.

Please note that for those turning 80 in the first year who remain eligible until 31 August 2025, payment claims post the individuals 80th birthday will need to be made manually.

CQRS: RSV vaccination services for both vaccination in pregnancy and adults aged 75 years and over are now available for practices to confirm their participation in order to receive payments.

The deadline to accept the service offer is no later than 23:59 on 31 August 2024.

Where an individual aged 79 years on 31 August 2024 turns 80 and is vaccinated before the 31 August 2025 at age 80, then the practice will be required to manually claim for these individuals. This should be completed via a manual adjustment in CQRS **before** the payment is declared by the provider and approved by the commissioner. For pregnant individuals, a manual service has been setup in CQRS for practices to enter the number of RSV vaccinations to eligible individuals each month. This is set out in paragraph 9.7 of the RSV contractual guidance.

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Ordering RSV vaccination

- Practices should order Abrysvo® online via the ImmForm website. Abrysvo® will be available to order from 1st August 2024 and practices will be able to monitor their orders and deliveries through ImmForm. Whilst UKHSA have confirmed there is no cap on orders, **it is recommended that providers order no more than 2 weeks' worth of stock.**
- The vaccine for the adult programme is listed as a separate product from the vaccine for the programme for pregnant women to protect infants on ImmForm and separate orders should be placed where both cohorts are being vaccinated
- Vaccines ordered for the older adult cohort should not be used to vaccinate pregnant women (and vice versa).
- For further detail please refer to ImmForm's 'product ordering' page

Leaflets and posters

The RSV vaccination leaflet and poster are suitable for all RSV vaccination settings including GP practices.
Paper copies of this leaflet are available to order ([product code: C24RSV01EN](#)).

RSV vaccination for older adults poster

A poster for the RSV for older adults programme is available to order ([product code: RSVOAEN](#)).

Links to translated and accessible versions of these materials [Respiratory syncytial virus \(RSV\): vaccination for older adults](#)

Information on respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and the benefits of vaccination for adults and resources to promote the vaccination to older adults.

Co-administration of RSV vaccine

Older adults:

- Abrysvo® should not be routinely scheduled to be given to older adults at the same appointment or on the same day as an influenza or COVID-19 vaccine.
- No specific interval is required between administering the vaccines. If it is thought that the individual is unlikely to return for a second appointment or immediate protection is necessary, Abrysvo® could be administered at the same time as influenza and/or COVID-19 vaccine.
- Abrysvo® can be given at the same time as pneumococcal, shingles vaccine and any live vaccines

Pregnant women:

- Abrysvo® should not be routinely scheduled with other vaccinations in pregnancy.
- Pregnant women can have Abrysvo® co-administered with inactivated influenza vaccine, COVID-19 vaccine and/or anti-D immunoglobulin, **if necessary**.
- When more than one vaccine is administered, it should be at different sites, preferably different limbs. If a pertussis containing vaccine has not been given by the time of attendance for Abrysvo® RSV vaccine, both vaccines can and should be given at the same appointment to ensure prompt development of immune response

Who can administer RSV vaccine

Other trained staff may offer vaccination where a prescriber has issued a Patient Specific Direction. Where a PSD is issued, the prescriber has a duty of care and is professionally and legally accountable for the care they provide including the delegation of any administration of medicines they prescribe. The prescriber must be satisfied that the person to whom the administration is delegated has the qualifications, experience, knowledge and skills to provide the care or treatment involved. Advice is available from the GMC and the NMC.

Providers should refer to the PGD for further guidance. PGD will be available in August 2024 and will be available via the Yorkshire and Humber PGD webpage.

What if I need additional vaccines?

UKHSA have confirmed there is no cap on vaccine orders. If you need additional supplies you should contact the ImmForm helpdesk directly. Please notify your Public Health Place Lead of the request so that they can support if needed.

UKHSA Update for RSV vaccination for older adults

Information on respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and the benefits of vaccination for adults and resources to promote the vaccination to older adults.

Updated 4th September: Added NHS England older adult letter and SMS invitation templates. These are intended for local use to support call and recall of eligible patients by GP surgeries.

[Respiratory syncytial virus \(RSV\): vaccination for older adults - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/respiratory-syncytial-virus-rsv-vaccination-for-older-adults)
(www.gov.uk)

Reconstitution of vaccine and reporting issues

If colleagues are having issues reconstituting the vaccine please report them to Pfizer. Link attached for RSV reconstitution video.

- <https://www.pfizerpro.co.uk/medicine/abrysvo/dosing/preparation>