

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) and Adults 60 and Older

Older adults and those with underlying medical conditions have an increased RSV burden. Each year among adults in the U.S., RSV is responsible for:

➔ **6,000 to 10,000 deaths**

➔ **60,000 to 100,000 hospitalizations**

Adults at highest risk for severe RSV infection include those 60 and older with certain health conditions, including cardiopulmonary disease, diabetes, and disorders of the kidneys, liver or blood, and others.



RSV illness in these populations is associated with significant harms, particularly pneumonia and hospitalization.



Risks of Hospitalization

Older adults who are hospitalized are at risk for serious complications, including:

- Delirium
- Malnutrition
- Increased physical weakness and decreased function
- Advancing frailty
- Loss of independence

Vaccinations

The Food and Drug Administration approved three RSV vaccines for adults. Both have shown efficacy in reducing the severity of RSV illness. These vaccines allow patients to:

- Take a single dose for one RSV season, best given in late summer or early fall
- Take the vaccine alongside other vaccines during the same visit

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/rsv/hcp/older-adults.html>

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