

NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE

Michelle Morse, MD, MPH Interim Health Commissioner

August 5, 2025

Dear Provider,

Nirsevimab (Beyfortus® [Sanofi and AstraZeneca]), a long-acting monoclonal antibody (mAb) that protects infants and young children from respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), is now available to order from the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program for the 2025-2026 RSV season. Both the 50 mg and 100 mg formulations can be ordered through the New York City (NYC) Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's (Health Department's) Online Registry.

Indications for nirsevimab are as follows:

- Infants < 8 months of age born during or entering their first RSV season are recommended to receive one dose of nirsevimab (50 mg for infants <5 kg and 100 mg for infants ≥5 kg).
- Children ages 8-19 months who are at increased risk of severe RSV and entering their second RSV season are recommended to receive one dose of nirsevimab (200 mg).

RSV season in NYC is defined as October through the end of March. Providers should target administration for the first week of life for infants born shortly before or during RSV season. Birthing hospitals should plan to administer RSV-mAb before infants are discharged from their birth hospitalization. RSV-mAb should not be administered after the end of the RSV season (March 31).

Providers should ask the birthing parent if they were vaccinated against RSV during their recent pregnancy and check their electronic health records. Providers can also check the Citywide Immunization Registry (CIR), though the absence of a record does not mean the birthing parent was not vaccinated because not all adult immunizations are reported. Most children born to parents vaccinated during pregnancy should not receive RSV-mAb; however, RSV-mAb should be administered to the infant if the vaccination status of the birthing parent is unknown or if the infant was born within 14 days of the birthing parent's vaccination.

Though adequate supply of nirsevimab is expected for the VFC program and on the commercial market during the 2025-2026 RSV season, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has instituted allocation caps for the VFC program at the start of the season. As such, the actual number of doses shipped may be less than the amount requested in an order. A subsequent order must be placed to receive additional doses. The Health Department will work to optimize allocations to our providers so that all providers are able to immunize VFC-eligible patients at the start of the season.

Borrowing VFC products for non-VFC eligible patients is not permitted. Providers who serve and plan to immunize non-VFC eligible patients must maintain a separate private inventory of RSV-mAb. Nirsevimab obtained from previous RSV seasons remains authorized for use if properly stored and not expired. Please check the expiration label prior to use.

VFC providers must adhere to the following ordering guidelines:

- For 50 mg doses order an anticipated 2 to 3 weeks' supply.
- For 100 mg order an anticipated 1-month supply.

Providers are encouraged to forecast their RSV-mAb needs by using the following questions as guidance:

- How many of your patients were born after March 31, 2025?
- What is the monthly average of patients who are newborns?
 - What % of these patients are likely to be under 5 kg and need a 50 mg dose?
- How many patients who will be 8-19 months of age during the RSV season are at high risk and meet the eligibility criteria for RSV-mAb during their second RSV season?
- What percentage of your RSV-mAb-eligible patients are VFC-eligible?
- How much storage space is in your vaccine refrigerators? (Keep in mind that RSV-mAb will be administered during the influenza and COVID-19 vaccination seasons; therefore, sufficient space is needed to store all products.)

Nirsevimab is supplied in pre-filled syringes. VFC providers must adhere to the following storage and handling requirements:

- Keep refrigerated at 36°F to 46°F (2°C to 8°C).
- May be kept at room temperature 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C) for a maximum of 8 hours.
- After removal from the refrigerator, must be used within 8 hours or discarded.
- Store in the original package to protect from light until time of use.
- Do not freeze or expose to heat.
- Do not use beyond the expiration date shown on the vial label.

Further information on RSV-mAb clinical guidance and storage and handling requirements is available on the CDC webpage, RSV Immunization for Children 19 Months and Younger.

All administered doses of RSV-mAb should be reported to the CIR.

For questions on RSV immunization of young children, please call the Health Department at 347-396-2400 or email nycimmunize@health.nyc.gov.

As a reminder, Bureau of Immunization virtual office hours for NYC immunizing providers take place on the first Wednesday of each month from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Register here for the next office hour, which will be held on August 6, 2025.

Thank you for protecting NYC children from RSV.

The day Crown

Sincerely,

Bindy Crouch, MD, MPH Assistant Commissioner

Bureau of Immunization