

## **GET THE BASICS**

HealthinAging.org

Trusted Information. Better Care.

# RSV Vaccines for Older Adults (60+)

Respiratory syncytial virus, or RSV, is a virus that causes infections of the lungs and breathing passages. It is highly contagious (easy to get from other people) In older adults, RSV is a common cause of a lung disease which can cause life-threatening pneumonia. The RSV vaccine can help older adults at risk of RSV.

#### Your healthcare professional will help you decide whether to get the RSV vaccine:

- Older adults should ask their healthcare professional whether or not they should be given the RSV vaccine
- Your healthcare professional will consider your risk factors for getting seriously sick from RSV and your current health status when helping you decide whether to get the vaccine

If you and your healthcare professional decide you should get the RSV vaccine, **fall is the best time to get it.** RSV is especially common in the fall and winter.

#### Coverage for an RSV vaccine varies:

- RSV vaccines are covered by Medicare Part D
- RSV vaccines may not be currently covered by Medicare Part B
- Private insurers can individually decide whether to cover the RSV vaccine

### Vaccines are available at many locations:

- Most drug stores
- Community health centers
- Ask your doctor or healthcare professional



THE OFFICIAL FOUNDATION OF THE AMERICAN GERIATRICS SOCIETY

40 FULTON STREET SUITE 809 NEW YORK, NY 10038 212.308.1414 TEL

Info@healthinaging.org

The AGS Health in Aging Foundation is dedicated to improving the health, independence, and quality of life of all older people. We aim to empower older adults and caregivers to actively participate in their health care and decision-making.

DISCLAIMER: This information is not intended to diagnose health problems or to take the place of medical advice or care you receive from your physician or other healthcare provider. Always consult your healthcare provider about your medications, symptoms, and health problems. September 2023 ©2022 Health in Aging Foundation. All rights reserved.