

STANDING ORDERS FOR Administering Nirsevimab RSV Preventive Antibody to Infants

Purpose

To reduce morbidity and mortality from respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) by immunizing all infants who meet the criteria established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) with a long-acting monoclonal antibody against RSV.

January 2024 Supply Update: Due to limited initial availability of 100-mg manufacturer-filled syringes (MFS), in October 2023 CDC temporarily recommended limiting the use of nirsevimab in infants weighing 5 kg or more. Supply is now adequate. CDC recommends healthcare providers resume following the published ACIP recommendations for use of nirsevimab. Specific facilities that continue to have a limited supply should prioritize available doses to protect infants at the highest risk for severe RSV disease using the following principles: first by high-risk conditions and then by age, prioritizing the youngest infants first. This standing order template follows the published ACIP recommendations.

RSV Vaccine Note: Between September 1 and January 31 each season, prevention of severe RSV disease in infants is recommended through administration of RSVpreF vaccine (Abrysvo, Pfizer) to the pregnant person between gestational week 32 and week 36 and 6 days, as an alternative to nirsevimab. If conditions (e.g., product availability) allow for the option of maternal vaccination or nirsevimab, the pregnant person may choose the preferred option. The standing order template for maternal vaccination with Abrysvo is available at www.immunize.org/p3096.pdf. RSV vaccines are not approved for use in children.

Policy

Where allowed by state law, standing orders enable eligible nurses and other healthcare professionals to assess the need for administration of a long-acting monoclonal antibody product to infants and young children who meet the criteria below.

Procedure

1 Assess infants in need of immunization against RSV disease in their first or second RSV season according to the following criteria:

1a. Routine dose for infants younger than 8 months and 0 days (must meet all criteria):

Timing: Generally, October 1 through March 31, unless use of nirsevimab outside of this time is currently recommended by regional experts or health authorities in response to local RSV activity. This seasonality is less likely outside the continental United States.

Infant immunization history: No history of nirsevimab; no history of palivizumab in the past 30 days

No history of effective maternal RSVpreF vaccination for one of the following reasons:

- RSVpreF vaccine was not administered, or
- RSVpreF administration history is unknown, or
- RSVpreF administration occurred less than 14 days before delivery, or
- RSVpreF administration occurred 14 or more days before delivery, but protection may be inadequate for one of the following reasons (*evaluation may require referral*):
 - Mother is immunocompromised or living with HIV, or
 - Infant has undergone cardiopulmonary bypass or extracorporeal membrane oxygenation, or
 - Infant has hemodynamically significant congenital heart disease, or
 - Infant has had an intensive care admission requiring oxygen at hospital discharge

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Note: If maternal vaccination with RSVpreF was considered effective (i.e., none of the preceding criteria were met), do not give nirsevimab.

1b. Risk-based immunization of children age 8 months through 19 months during their second RSV season (must be in at least one high risk category):

Timing: Generally, October 1 through March 31, unless use of nirsevimab outside of this time is currently recommended by regional experts or health authorities in response to local RSV activity. This seasonality is less likely outside the continental United States:

High risk and eligible for palivizumab:

- Children with chronic lung disease of prematurity who require medical support during the six months before the start of their second RSV season
- Children who are severely immunocompromised
- Children with evidence of severe cystic fibrosis (previous hospitalization for pulmonary exacerbation in the first year of life or abnormalities on chest imaging that persist when stable) or have weight-for-length that is less than the 10th percentile

If nirsevimab is unavailable, palivizumab should be administered to children who are eligible per AAP recommendations for palivizumab for RSV prevention (see <https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2023-061803>). Refer for palivizumab.

High risk and ineligible for palivizumab:

- American Indian or Alaskan Native and living in remote regions, where access to medical care may be challenging, or where there are known high rates of severe disease among older infants and toddlers.

2 Screen for contraindications and precautions

Do not give nirsevimab to persons with a history of severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a nirsevimab component. For a list of nirsevimab components, refer to the manufacturer’s package insert (www.immunize.org/fda) or go to www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2023/761328s000lbl.pdf.

3 Provide Immunization Information Statement

Provide each patient’s parent or legal representative a copy of the most current federal nirsevimab Immunization Information Statement (IIS, a VIS-like document). At this time, the RSV preventive antibody is not part of the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP), therefore, use of the IIS is not required by federal law. However, Vaccines for Children (VFC) program providers must give the IIS to parents in the same way that a VIS is provided.

Provide non-English speaking parents/legal representatives with a copy of the IIS in their native language if one is available and desired; available translations can be found at www.immunize.org/vis. (For information about how to document that the IIS was given, see section 6 titled “Document Immunization.”)

4 Prepare to Administer Nirsevimab

Choose the needle gauge, needle length, and injection site according to the following chart

AGE	NEEDLE GAUGE	NEEDLE LENGTH	INJECTION SITE
Newborns (1st 28 days)	22-25	5/8"	Anterolateral thigh muscle
Infants age 2 through 11 months	22-25	1"	Anterolateral thigh muscle
Age 12 through 19 months	22-25	1-1 1/4"	Anterolateral thigh muscle*
		5/8†-1"	Deltoid muscle of arm

* Preferred site.

† A 5/8" needle may be used for children for IM injection in the deltoid muscle only if the skin is stretched tight, the subcutaneous tissue is not bunched, and the injection is made at a 90-degree angle.

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5 Administer the Appropriate Dose of Nirsevimab

Administer by the intramuscular (IM) route, according to the tables below, to eligible infants and toddlers. Nirsevimab is available in two formulations: a 50-mg (0.5 mL) manufacturer-filled syringe (MFS) or a 100-mg (1.0 mL) MFS. The 50-mg MFS should be reserved for use in infants weighing less than 5 kg: do not administer two 50-mg MFS doses to an infant weighing 5 kg or more.

Infants age younger than 8 months, 0 days:

CHILD’S WEIGHT	NIRSEVIMAB DOSE
Less than 5 kg (11 lbs)	50-mg MFS
Greater than or equal to 5 kg (11 lbs)	100-mg MFS

High risk infants age 8 months through 19 months eligible for nirsevimab during their second season:

CHILD’S WEIGHT	NIRSEVIMAB DOSE
Any	200 mg (total): administer two 100-mg MFS injections at the same visit at different injection sites

Note: Only one dose of nirsevimab is recommended for any child for a single RSV season. Nirsevimab may be coadministered with any recommended live or non-live vaccines, at separate injection sites, or at any time before or after administration of any live or non-live vaccine.

6 Document Immunization

Document each patient’s nirsevimab administration information and follow-up in the following places:

Medical record: Record the date it was administered, the manufacturer and lot number, the administration site and route, and the name and address and, if appropriate, the title of the person administering it. Also, document, in the patient’s medical record or office log, the publication date of the IIS and the date it was given to the patient, in the same way that a VIS is documented. Note that medical records/charts should be documented and retained in accordance with applicable state laws and regulations. If nirsevimab was not administered, record the reason(s) for non-receipt (e.g., not indicated due to maternal vaccination, medical contraindication, patient refusal). Plan to discuss at the next visit, if the infant remains eligible and RSV protection remains indicated.

Personal immunization record card: Record the date of vaccination and the name/location of the administering clinic.

Immunization Information System or “registry”: Report administration to the appropriate state or local immunization information system, if available.

7 Be Prepared to Manage Medical Emergencies

Be prepared for management of a medical emergency related to the administration of a monoclonal antibody (e.g., a risk of anaphylaxis) by having a written emergency medical protocol available, as well as equipment and medications. For Immunize.org’s “Medical Management of Vaccine Reactions in Children and Teens in a Community Setting,” go to www.immunize.org/catg.d/p3082a.pdf.

8 Report Adverse Events to MedWatch or VAERS

Adverse events that occur after administration of nirsevimab alone: Report to MedWatch online (www.fda.gov/medwatch), by fax, by mail, or by contacting FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

Adverse events that occur after coadministration of nirsevimab with one or more vaccines: Report to the Federal Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). Submit a VAERS report online (preferred) or download a writable PDF form at www.vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html. Further help is available by calling (800) 822-7967. **Note:** After reporting to VAERS, additional reporting of the same adverse reaction to MedWatch is not necessary.

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Standing Orders Authorization

This policy and procedure shall remain in effect for all patients of the _____
NAME OF PRACTICE OR CLINIC

effective _____ until rescinded or until _____ .
DATE DATE

Medical Director _____ / _____
PRINT NAME SIGNATURE DATE