

# Information for Parents About Nirsevimab (Beyfortus®)



## What is nirsevimab?

Nirsevimab is a medication that helps a child's body fight a serious virus called respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).

Nirsevimab is an antibody that works like those your child's body makes. This medication teaches the immune system to fight the RSV. It does not eliminate the risk of infection, but it reduces the risk of severe infection by about 80%.

Protection from RSV lasts for five months or more.

## Why did my healthcare provider prescribe nirsevimab?

Your child has a higher risk of developing a serious RSV infection due to preexisting health conditions.

Nirsevimab can help keep your child safer during the fall and winter months when the RSV virus is more active (usually between October to March/April). Your child will receive a single dose of this medication before or during RSV season.

## How is nirsevimab given?

Nirsevimab is given as an injection in the thigh. Your child's dose depends on their age and weight. Children that need a higher dose will get an injection in each thigh.

## Does my child need a repeat injection?

No. One dose will provide protection for the full RSV season.

Your health-care provider may suggest that your child get the medication annually until they are two years old.

## What are the side effects?

Nirsevimab has very few side effects, which are usually mild and do not last very long:

- mild fever
- rash
- redness and soreness at the injection site

More serious side effects are rare, occurring in less than 1% of children, and include allergic reactions. You will be asked to wait after the injection to monitor for immediate reactions. Your nurse or physician will provide instructions on when to seek medical care for late onset allergic reactions.

## Can my child still get their other immunizations?

Yes. Your child can get other immunizations on the same day as nirsevimab, if needed.

## If my child is sick, can they still get nirsevimab?

Usually, yes. A mild fever or cold is usually not a reason to wait.

If your child is very sick, your health-care provider may recommend the nirsevimab injection be delayed until your child is better, mainly for practical reasons. In some cases, your health-care provider may feel that waiting may increase your child's risk of RSV infection.

## Can my child still get RSV even if they are receiving nirsevimab?

Yes. Your child can still get RSV, but they will be much less likely to need hospital care.

Nirsevimab does not prevent other viral infections, like cold and flu viruses.

## Should my child get nirsevimab during or after an RSV infection?

Since an RSV infection naturally boosts antibody levels, the antibody nirsevimab is unlikely to benefit children who already had RSV this season.