

# PROTECT BUB IN PREGNANCY BY GETTING AN RSV VACCINATION



[health.gov.au/maternalvaccinations](https://health.gov.au/maternalvaccinations)



Australian Government  
Department of Health,  
Disability and Ageing



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A joint Australian, State and Territory Government Initiative

## 1. What is Respiratory Syncytial Virus?

RSV is a common virus that spreads easily and affects the airways and lungs. It can cause serious illnesses like bronchiolitis and pneumonia.

## 2. Protecting bub from RSV starts in pregnancy

Just like food and air, mum passes on her vaccine protection to bub. This means bub is safe right from birth, especially in their first few months, when they're most at risk of getting sick but can't get vaccinated themselves yet.

## 3. It is important to protect bub from RSV

Almost every little will get RSV in their first 2 years of life. It's one of the main reasons babies under 6 months end up in the hospital. Even healthy kids can get very sick. Vaccination is safe during pregnancy and can lower the risk of severe RSV illness in young bubs by 70%.

**RSV vaccination is free during pregnancy and recommended in your final trimester.**

Have a yarn to your midwife, health worker or vaccination provider or visit [health.gov.au/maternalvaccinations](https://www.health.gov.au/maternalvaccinations) for more information.

