

RSV Needle

Information for Pavee Gallies



From September 2026 to February 2027, all mothers across Ireland will be offered a needle for their newborn babies to protect them against RSV. The needle will be given to babies while in the maternity ward.

Older babies born between March 2026 and August 2026 can get the RSV needle at the GP now.

Some **other babies under 2** with weak immune systems, heart or lung conditions may be able to get the RSV needle and parents can talk to the doctor about getting it.



RSV is a very serious virus that can make newborn babies very sick. **1 in 2 babies get RSV** in the first year of life. Most babies will get RSV by the time they are 2.

RSV can make it very hard for babies to breathe. Some will need to go to the hospital and could need intensive care.

RSV is contagious. We know Traveller babies may have a higher risk of getting RSV due to overcrowding. So, it's important we protect them as much as we can.

The RSV needle is one needle for the baby and will protect them over the wintertime, when RSV is at its highest. The RSV needle is very effective and safe. It protects babies during the autumn and winter from getting very sick from RSV.

Traveller babies who have SCIDs can still get this needle - it is still safe to have.

If you have any questions, ask your midwife, your public health nurse or your doctor for more information.

You can also get in touch with your local Traveller organisation/ Primary Healthcare Project.