



# Clinical considerations for RSVpreF maternal vaccine and nirsevimab

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# Policy questions for ACIP vote

- Should vaccination with Pfizer RSVPreF vaccine (120 $\mu$ g antigen, 1 dose IM given 24-36 weeks gestation) be recommended for pregnant people to prevent RSV disease in infants?
- Should one dose of nirsevimab be recommended for infants born during or entering their first RSV season and <8 months of age at time of immunization?
- Should one dose of nirsevimab be recommended for children who are at increased risk of severe RSV disease entering their second RSV season and <20 months of age at time of immunization?

# Potential advantages of maternal vaccination versus a monoclonal antibody (mAb)

- A maternal vaccine may be lower in price
- A mAb is not a traditional vaccine and many issues may complicate implementation
  - Insurance coverage, vaccine schedule, immunization registries, safety monitoring
- Maternal vaccine provides protection from birth, when infants are at highest risk
  - A mAb must be timed correctly to provide protection during the RSV season, and atypical RSV transmission may lead to unprotected infants
- Maternal vaccine induces a polyclonal antibody response, which should be more resilient to mutations than a monoclonal antibody
  - Evidence suggests that mutations resulting in nirsevimab resistance are rare, but naturally occurring resistant mutations have been detected<sup>1,2</sup>
  - Mutations resulted in poor efficacy of a previous mAb product (suptavumab)<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Abram IDweek 2022. <sup>2</sup> Abram 12th RSV International Symposium 2022. <sup>3</sup> [Simões CID 2021](#).

# Potential advantages of mAb over maternal vaccination

- Imbalance for preterm birth observed after RSVpreF vaccine vs. placebo in maternal clinical trials, but not statistically significant<sup>1</sup>
- No head-to-head trials comparing efficacy, but protection from maternal vaccination likely wanes more quickly<sup>1-4</sup>
- Estimated half-life in nirsevimab trials
  - Nirsevimab: 63–73 days<sup>5,6</sup>
  - Infection-induced maternal RSV antibodies: 36–38 days<sup>5</sup>
- Nirsevimab administration can be timed to be given when infant is entering RSV season

# Potential advantages of mAb over maternal vaccination (continued)

- Protection from maternal vaccination relies on sufficient transplacental transfer of antibodies, which may be reduced in
  - Infants born soon after maternal immunization<sup>1</sup>
  - Infants born premature<sup>2</sup>
  - Maternal disease<sup>2</sup>
- Maternal uptake of flu and Tdap vaccines lower than routine childhood vaccines<sup>3,4</sup>
  - Unclear if pregnant people willing to accept multiple vaccines during pregnancy
  - However, flu vaccine uptake among children only mildly higher than among pregnant people
  - Uptake of maternal RSVpreF vaccine and nirsevimab unknown

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pregnancy/vacc-during-after.html>. <sup>2</sup> [Palmerira Clin Dev Immunol 2012](#).

<sup>3</sup><https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluview/pregnant-women-apr2022.htm>. <sup>4</sup> [Hill MMWR 2023](#)

# Benefits of both products being available

- Each product has certain advantages
- Parental preferences may differ, as suggested by survey asking pregnant people about product preference if both available<sup>1</sup>
  - 28% only maternal vaccine
  - 25% only RSV antibody injection
  - 38% both
  - 8% none
  - 1% other
- Some populations lack access or do not present for prenatal care, precluding maternal vaccination
- Scenarios may exist for which use of both products may be warranted to maximize protection from RSV-associated severe disease

<sup>1</sup> Unpublished CDC and University of Iowa/RAND survey of 523 people currently pregnant or pregnant within last 12 months of survey conducted December 21, 2022-January 2, 2023

## Cost effectiveness summary

- Cost effectiveness of giving nirsevimab if mother had been vaccinated
  - \$668,735/QALY if given to all infants
  - \$486,882/QALY if given to infants born April to September
- Cost effectiveness of giving RSVpreF to mother if nirsevimab will be given
  - More than \$10,000,000/QALY on average

# Challenges if nirsevimab recommendations relate to maternal vaccination status

- Maternal vaccination status might be unknown
- Transferring documentation of maternal vaccination to the healthcare provider of infant may be difficult
  - Limited information available during birth hospitalization
  - Less information regarding receipt of prenatal vaccinations may be available to infant primary care providers



# Draft clinical considerations if both RSVpreF and nirsevimab are licensed and recommended

- Either maternal vaccination with RSVpreF or nirsevimab is recommended to prevent RSV disease, but both products are not needed for most infants
- Risks and benefits of both RSVpreF and nirsevimab should be considered when deciding on maternal vaccination
- If mother vaccinated, nirsevimab can be considered if infant considered to have insufficient protection from vaccine or is at high risk of severe disease

# Scenarios to consider administration of nirsevimab when mother has been vaccinated

- Receipt of maternal vaccine not confirmed by healthcare record
- Infant born within 14 days of vaccination
- Infant born premature
- Healthcare provider recommends maximizing protection because infant at high risk of severe disease
  - Especially important if born >3 months prior to peak of RSV season

For more information, contact CDC  
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)  
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

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