



# PROJECT **FIRSTLINE** JOURNAL CLUB

*Project Firstline's curated journal club series draws on published, open access research examining important infection control topics for the healthcare workforce. Use the discussion questions below or create your own. Please check [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) for the latest data and recommendations on infection control topics affecting the healthcare workforce.*



## Article:

[Characteristics and Outcomes Among Adults Aged  \$\geq 60\$  Years Hospitalized with Laboratory-Confirmed Respiratory Syncytial Virus — RSV-NET, 12 States, July 2022–June 2023](#)

*In June 2023, CDC recommended using shared clinical decision-making to promote respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccination for adults aged 60 and over, prioritizing those at highest risk for severe disease. This study found that among 1,634 adults aged  $\geq 60$  years hospitalized with RSV, 54% were aged  $\geq 75$  years; 17% resided in long-term care facilities (LTCFs); and 96% had at least one underlying medical condition. Severe outcomes in older adult patients with RSV-associated hospitalization included admission to an intensive care unit (ICU), mechanical ventilation, and death.*



## Discussion:

### Understanding and analyzing the article:

- What is the purpose of this article? If provided, identify the main research questions and hypotheses.
- Who are the authors and what are their affiliations (who they work for or who funded the research) and credentials (degrees or professional experience)?
- Do any of the authors have affiliations that could influence the outcome of the study due to a conflict of interest?
- When was the article published, and is the information still timely and relevant to the topic? Why or why not?
- What background information is important to understanding this topic?
- What study design or research methods were used?
- What were the main findings of the paper and how do the authors support their interpretation of the findings?
- What are the strengths and limitations of this article?
- What main conclusions and calls to action are presented?

### Continue the discussion:

- Read [CDC updates for RSV vaccination recommendations for adults](#) and then discuss and reflect.
- The study highlighted older age, LTCF residents, and underlying medical conditions as key risk factors for RSV-associated hospitalization. What was the shared decision-making model, and why was it recommended by the [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\)](#) for RSV, but not for other vaccinations?
- Identify methods of applying shared decision-making to promote RSV vaccination in the priority population of older adults and to prevent severe outcomes associated with RSV. Why might it have been hard to implement these methods?