

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Vaccine:

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommended that individuals 75 years of age and older receive a single dose of an RSV vaccine. Individuals 60-74 years of age with risk factors for severe RSV disease should also receive a dose of RSV vaccine. Pregnant people between 32 - 36 weeks gestation should receive a dose of RSV vaccine to protect their newborn from severe RSV illness.

In May 2023, the FDA approved two separate vaccines by different manufacturers for RSV. In May 2024, the FDA approved a third vaccine by a third manufacturer for RSV. They are indicated for active immunization for the prevention of lower respiratory tract disease caused by respiratory syncytial virus.

RSV is transmitted through contact with droplets from the nose and throat when an infected person coughs or sneezes. It can also spread through contact with respiratory secretions on bedclothes, doorknobs and similar items and then touching the eyes, nose, or mouth. RSV can remain on hard surfaces for many hours and on soft surfaces for shorter amounts of time. Transmission can occur 1 to 2 days prior to symptoms until about 8 days after showing signs of illness. Some infants and immunocompromised individuals can spread the virus even after symptoms resolve, up to 4 weeks.

Evans Army Community Hospital is currently providing RSV vaccine appointments to TRICARE beneficiaries. To book an appointment, please call the Colorado Military Health System Access to Care Line at 719-526-2273 or use the MHS Genesis Patient Portal.

Visit the CDC Website for up-to-date RSV and Vaccine information: <https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/index.html> or the Defense Health Agency's Immunization Healthcare Division at <https://health.mil/Military-Health-Topics/Health-Readiness/Immunization-Healthcare/Vaccine-Preventable-Diseases/Respiratory-Syncytial-Virus>