

Maternal and Infant RSV Protection Program

—
Professor Michelle Giles

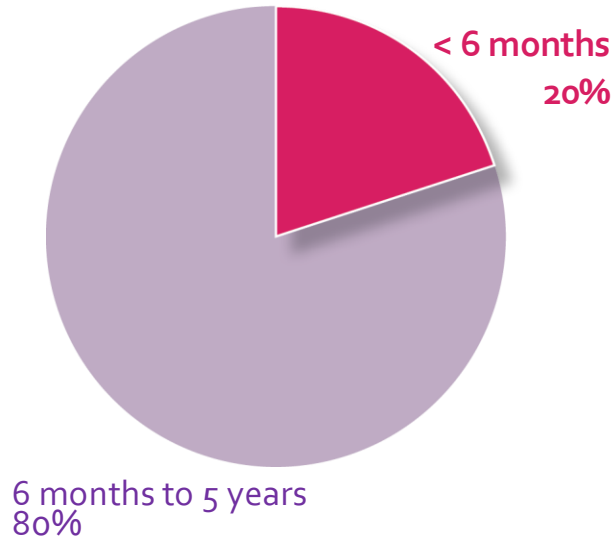
Department of Infectious Diseases

2024

Annual global pediatric RSV disease burden (< 5 years of age)

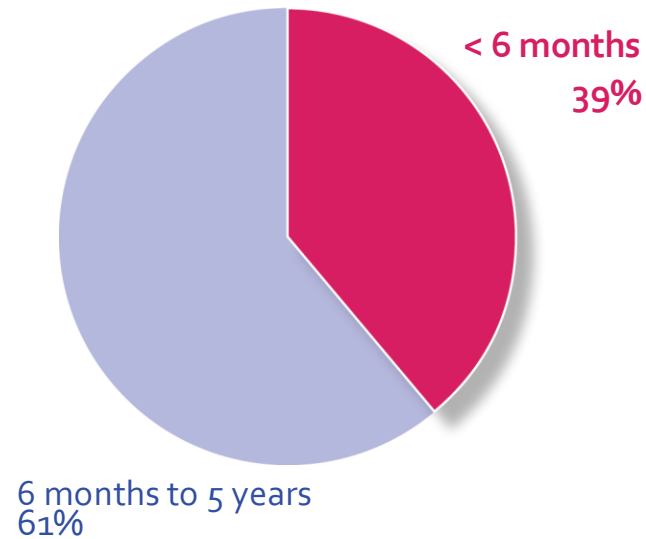
LEADING CAUSE OF SEVERE RESPIRATORY INFECTION

33,000,000
episodes



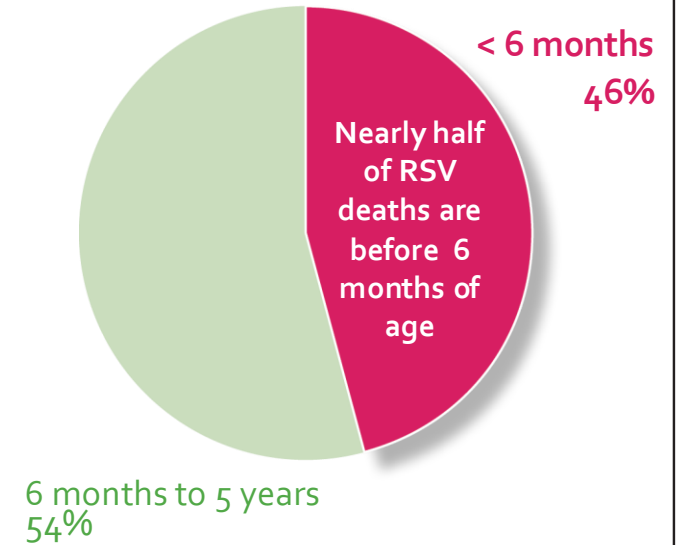
LEADING CAUSE OF PEDIATRIC HOSPITALIZATION

3.6 million
hospitalizations



IMPORTANT CAUSE OF PEDIATRIC MORTALITY

101,000
deaths



TOTAL GLOBAL CHILD MORTALITY DUE TO RSV

3.6%
< 6 MONTHS

2.3%
< 5 YEARS

RSV can be deadly

Although premature birth and underlying health issues increase risk for severe disease, risk factors for death are much broader.

In fact, most global RSV deaths occur



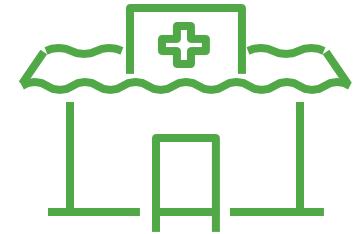
in infants born
full term



before 3 months
of age



in **low- and**
middle-income
areas



outside the
healthcare system

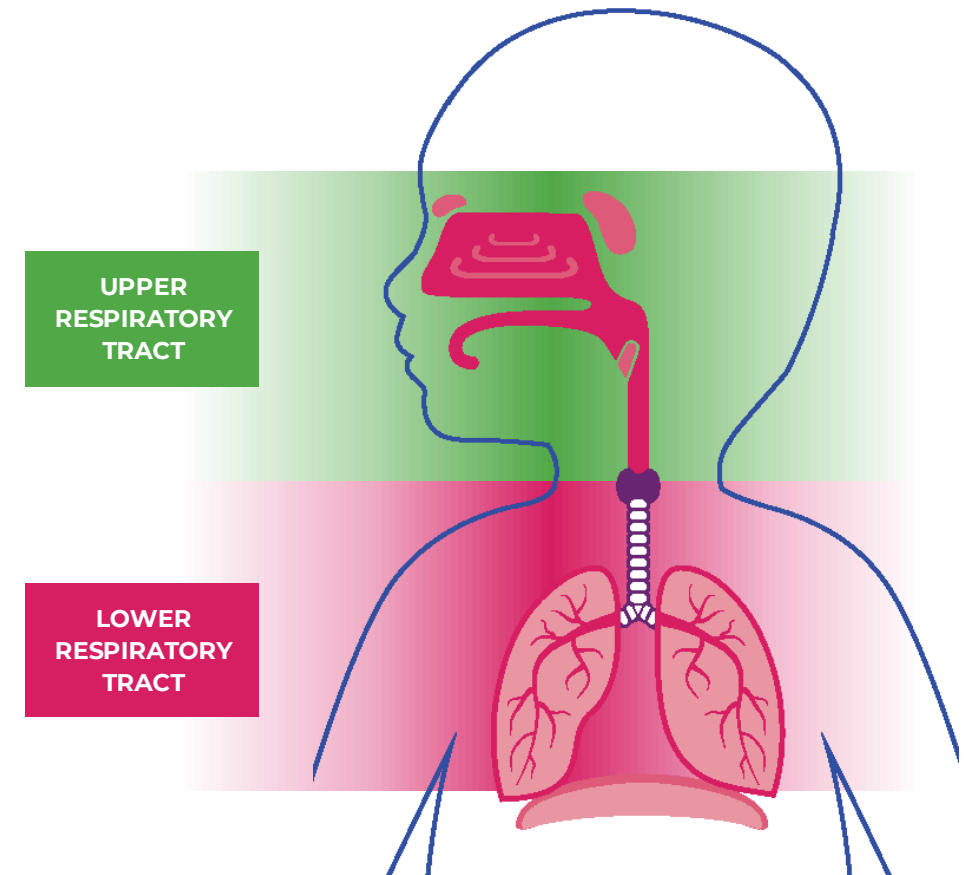
RSV affects the lungs and breathing passages

Symptoms typically occur 3-5 days after infection and can last 5-10 days

RSV infects the respiratory epithelial cells of the respiratory system and triggers a host inflammatory response.

Symptoms often start in the upper respiratory tract and are typically mild. In many cases, RSV can also infect the lower respiratory tract.

UPPER RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS	LOWER RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS	GENERAL SYMPTOMS
Runny nose	Coughing	Low-grade fever
Nasal congestion	Wheezing	Apnea (pause in breathing)
Earache/otitis media	Fast breathing	Poor feeding
		Dehydration



Maternal immunization is not new. We can build on experience.

Vaccine

Widespread/
global use

- Tetanus

Use in limited
(mostly higher
income) markets

- Influenza (seasonal)
- COVID-19
- Pertussis

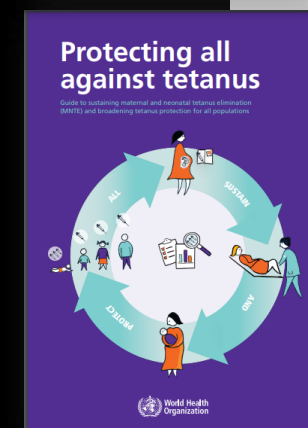
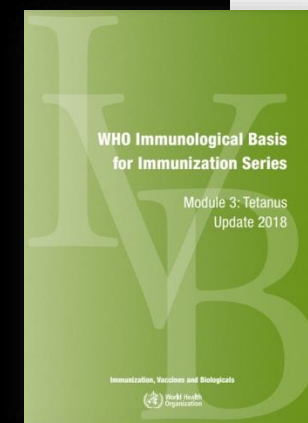
New and emerging
opportunities

- **RSV**
- Group B *Streptococcus* (GBS)

EXAMPLE

Maternal and neonatal tetanus (MNT) elimination

- Vaccination safely used in pregnancy since the 1960s
 - Tetanus toxoid and tetanus-diphtheria vaccines
- Maternal immunization pivotal in MNT elimination in most countries around the world
- Strong WHO guidance / widespread acceptance
- In low- and middle-income markets, delivered routinely or via campaigns & supplemental immunization activities



Maternal Immunisation for RSV prevention:



The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Respiratory Syncytial Virus Vaccination during Pregnancy and Effects in Infants

S.A. Madhi, F.P. Polack, P.A. Piedra, F.M. Munoz, A.A. Trenholme, E.A.F. Simões, G.K. Swamy, S. Agrawal, K. Ahmed, A. August, A.H. Baqui, A. Calvert, J. Chen, I. Cho, M.F. Cotton, C.L. Cutland, J.A. Englund, A. Fix, B. Gonik, L. Hammitt, P.T. Heath, J.N. de Jesus, C.E. Jones, A. Khalil, D.W. Kimberlin, R. Libster, C.J. Llapur, M. Lucero, G. Pérez Marc, H.S. Marshall, M.S. Masenya, F. Martínón-Torres, J.K. Meece, T.M. Nolan, A. Osman, K.P. Perrett, J.S. Plested, P.C. Richmond, M.D. Snape, J.H. Shakib, V. Shinde, T. Stoney, D.N. Thomas, A.T. Tita, M.W. Varner, M. Vatish, K. Vrbicky, J. Wen, K. Zaman, H.J. Zar, G.M. Glenn, and L.F. Fries, for the Prepare Study Group*

- Provided proof of safety and efficacy of maternal RSV vaccination (2020)
 - Overall VE 39.4% at 90 days against MA-LRTI
 - Reduced antibiotic prescriptions by 13%
 - Larger impact in LMICs (VE 11.6% US vs 42.5% SA)
 - Novavax discontinued RSV program as VE did not meet prespecified criterion for success

GSK maternal RSV vaccine clinical trial and preterm birth

- Trial of a similar GSK maternal RSV vaccine (stabilized prefusion F protein vaccine without an adjuvant) was halted due to an imbalance of preterm births with higher numbers in the vaccine vs placebo group

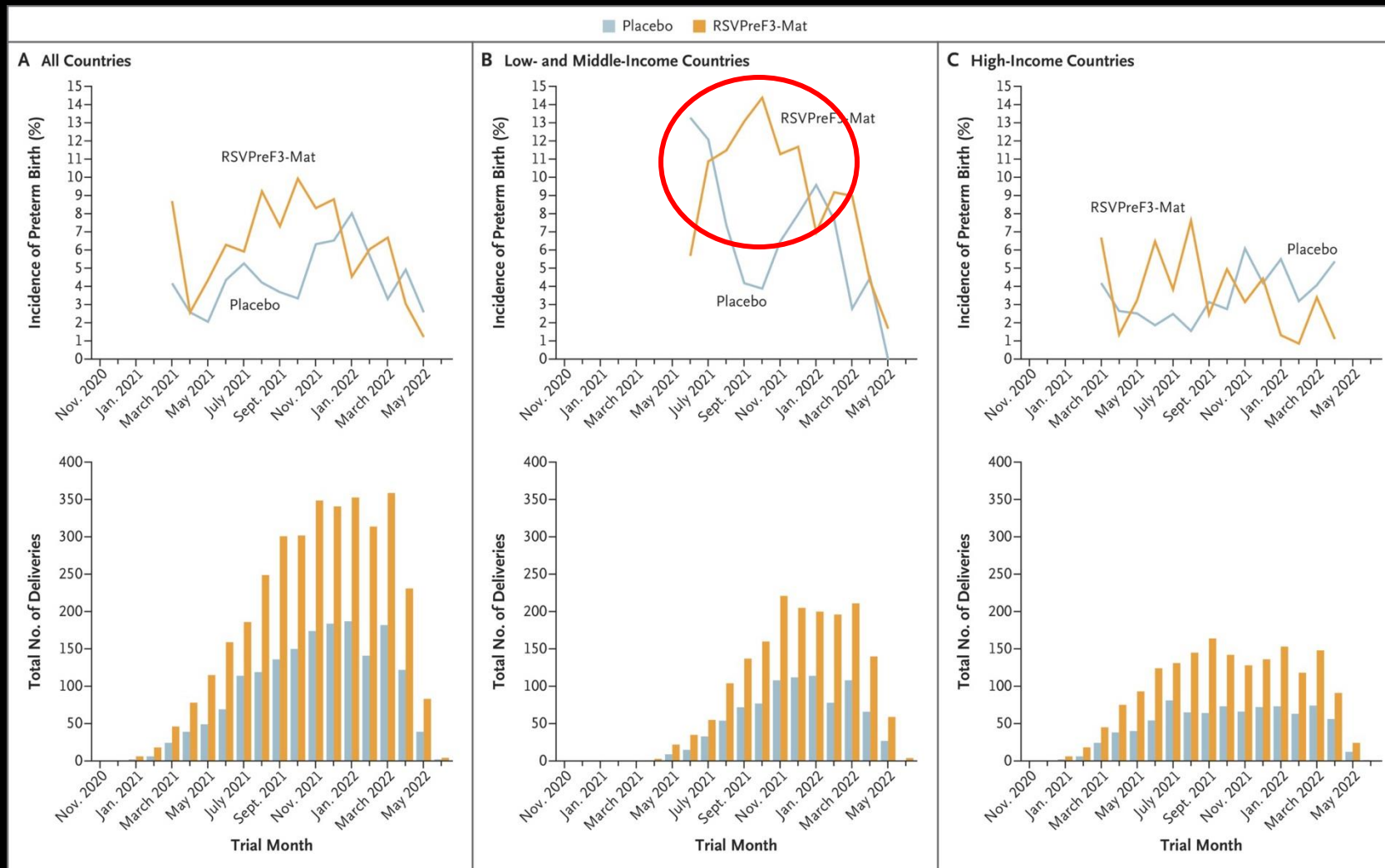
Outcome	Vaccine group, n (%) N=3,496	Placebo group, n (%) N=1,739	Relative Risk (95% CI)
Preterm birth (<37 weeks gestation)	238 (6.81%)	86 (4.95%)	1.38 (1.08, 1.75)
Neonatal death	13 (0.37%)	3 (0.17%)	2.16 (0.62, 7.55)

- Imbalance of neonatal deaths was a consequence of preterm birth imbalance
- Imbalance in preterm births was seen in low and middle-income countries (RR: 1.57, 95% CI: 1.17, 2.10) but not high-income countries (RR: 1.04, 95% CI: 0.68, 1.58)
- Imbalance was observed from April–December 2021, but not consistently after December 2021
- Reason for the imbalance remains unclear

Study vaccine given at 24 0/7 to 34 0/7 weeks gestation

[Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee February 28 - March 1, 2023 Meeting Briefing Document- Sponsor GSK \(fda.gov\)](#)

Monthly Incidence of Preterm Births and Number of Deliveries

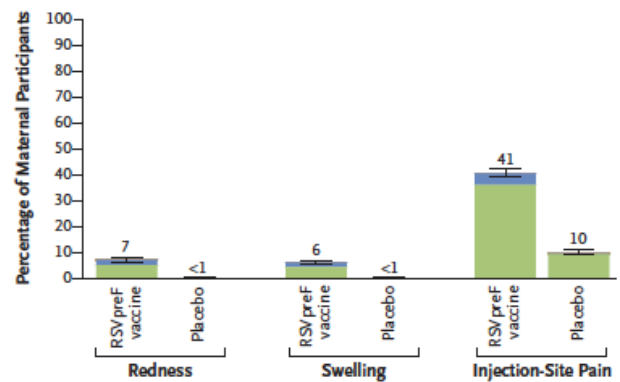


Dieussaert I et al. N Engl J Med 2024;390:1009-1021

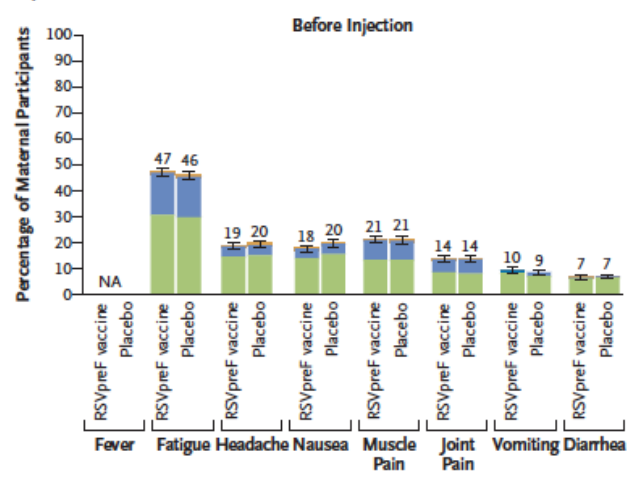


Severity: Mild Moderate Severe Grade 4
 Temperature: 38.0–38.4°C >38.4–38.9°C >38.9–40.0°C >40.0°C

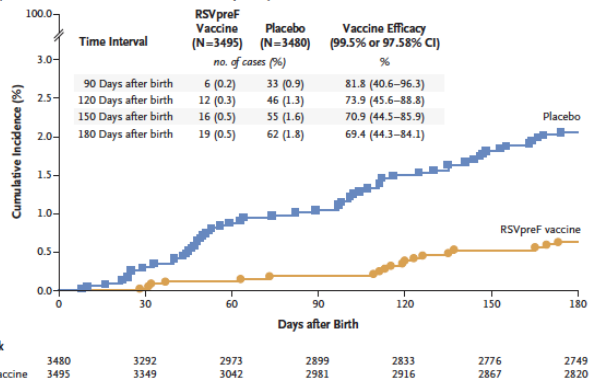
A Local Reactions



B Systemic Events



A Medically Attended Severe RSV-Associated Lower Respiratory Tract Illness



No. at Risk	3490	3292	2973	2899	2833	2776	2749
Placebo	3490	3292	2973	2899	2833	2776	2749
RSVpreF vaccine	3495	3349	3042	2981	2916	2867	2820

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

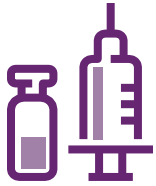
ESTABLISHED IN 1812 APRIL 20, 2023 VOL. 388 NO. 16

Bivalent Prefusion F Vaccine in Pregnancy to Prevent RSV Illness in Infants

B. Kampmann, S.A. Madhi, I. Munjal, E.A.F. Simões, B.A. Pahud, C. Ulapur, J. Baker, G. Pérez Marc, D. Radley, E. Shittu, J. Glanternik, H. Snaggs, J. Baber, P. Zachariah, S.L. Barnabas, M. Fausett, T. Adam, N. Perreras, M.A. Van Houten, A. Kantele, L.-M. Huang, L.J. Bont, T. Otsuki, S.L. Vargas, J. Gullam, B. Tapiero, R.T. Stein, F.P. Polack, H.J. Zar, N.B. Staerke, M. Duron Padilla, P.C. Richmond, K. Koury, K. Schneider, E.V. Kalinina, D. Cooper, K.U. Jansen, A.S. Anderson, K.A. Swanson, W.C. Gruber, and A. Gurtman, for the MATISSE Study Group*

Phase 3 clinical study evidence

pre-F RSV maternal vaccine efficacy and safety in infants born to women vaccinated during pregnancy



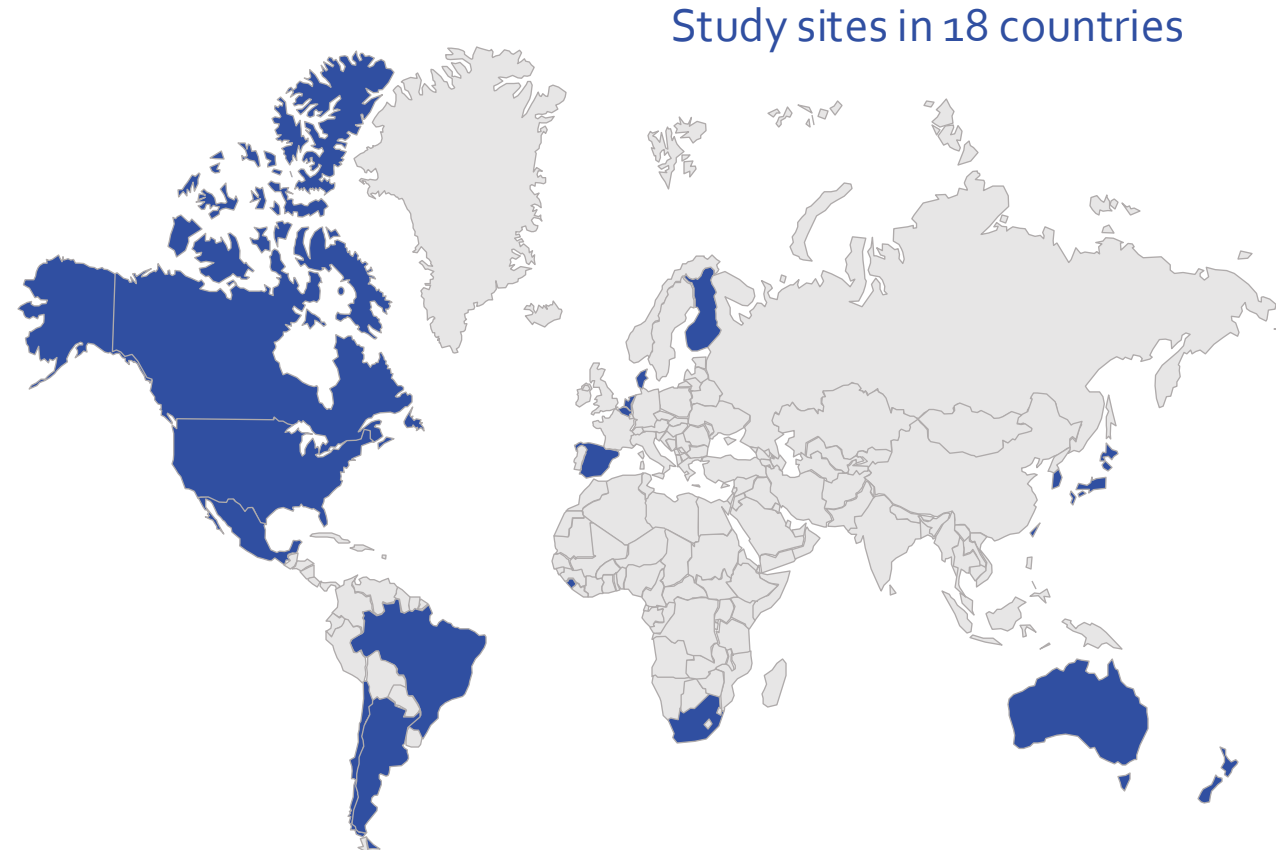
Study product: Abrysvo™



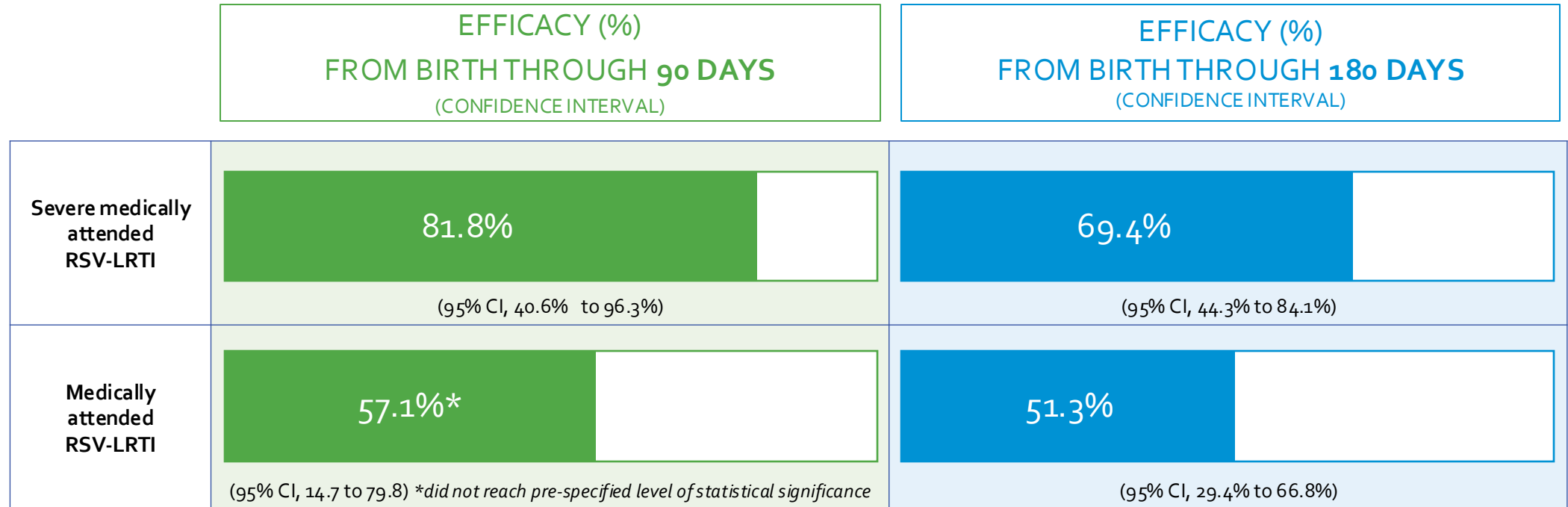
7,392 pregnant participants
≤49 years between ≥ 24 and ≤ 36
weeks gestation



7,128 infants enrolled



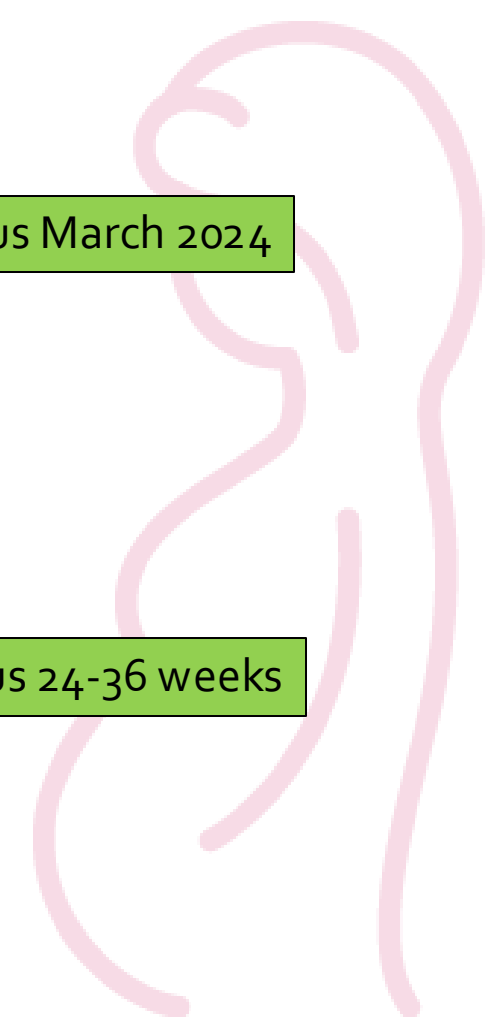
Pre-F RSV maternal vaccine efficacious against severe medically attended RSV in infants



**Efficacy remains high through first, most critical 6 months after birth—
when infants are at greatest risk.**

New RSV maternal vaccine licensed to protect infants

DEVELOPED BY	Pfizer, Inc. (Abrysvo™)		
APPROVAL	in Europe (August 2023)	in the US (August 2023)	In Aus March 2024
MATERNAL IMMUNIZATION INDICATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For immunization of pregnant individuals to help protect their infants from birth through 6 months of age from lower respiratory tract disease due to RSV • Vaccination likely needed with each pregnancy 		
APPROVED GESTATIONAL AGE WINDOWS	24-36 weeks (Europe)	32-36 weeks (US)	In Aus 24-36 weeks
ABOUT THE PRODUCT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For intramuscular injection • Uses standard cold chain • Lyophilized (freeze-dried) prefilled syringe; single-dose vial / multi-dose vial presentation in development • Can be co-administered with other maternal vaccines 		



Both products protect infants via passive immunization, but have differences



Maternal vaccine



Long-acting mAb

PROTECTION

Maternal antibodies protect infant in the first 6 months **after birth**.

mAbs protect for at least 5 months **after administration**, whenever given.

HOW IT WORKS

- Given to pregnant women
- Induces antibodies against **multiple** neutralizing sites on the Fusion protein in the mother and passed to infant.
- Much less likely that a virus mutation would render induced antibodies ineffective.

- Given to infants at birth or as soon as possible
- Antibodies against a **single** potent neutralizing site on the Fusion protein.
- A virus mutation could render the antibody ineffective.

COST

- Gavi plans to support a maternal RSV vaccine for eligible countries.*
- A pricing agreement** on multidose vial can make RSV maternal vaccine more accessible for GAVI-eligible countries.

Gavi plans to support a long-acting mAb when an affordable product is available for eligible countries.*

AVAILABILITY

Earliest availability in low- and middle-income settings likely in **2025**.

Uncertain timing of availability in low- and middle-income settings due to price and supply barriers.

*Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. Review of Decisions: Board Meeting, 28-29 November 2018. Geneva, Switzerland. Accessed at: <https://www.gavi.org/sites/default/files/board/minutes/2018/Board-2018-Mtg-2-Review%20of%20Decisions.pdf>

** Media center announcement accessed at:

<https://www.gatesfoundation.org/ideas/media-center/press-releases/2022/09/gates-foundation-announces-grants-to-reduce-infant-mortality>

Original slide developed by the World Health Organization and PATH. Last updated: January 2024.

ATAGI Recommendations

Pregnant women are recommended to receive a vaccine 28-36 weeks

Abrysvo is the only RSV vaccine approved for use in pregnancy NOT Arexvy

Reduces risk of disease by around 70% in infants <6 months of age

Advice on repeat vaccination will be provided when data available

Need 2 weeks post vaccination for adequate protection

If inadvertently vaccinated <28 weeks a repeat dose not indicated