

RSV PARENT FACT SHEET

PARENT/GUARDIAN

Your child may have been exposed to: RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV)

RSV is a common viral infection.

Need to stay home?

Yes, until fever is gone for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and the child is well enough to participate in routine activities.

DO NOT give aspirin or salicylate-containing medicines to anyone under 18 years of age.

Symptoms

Your child may have a cough, watery eyes, runny nose or stuffiness, or sneezing. Symptoms may last for 7 days.

People with severe RSV may wheeze and/or have lung congestion. RSV can be serious for premature babies and people with heart, lung, or immune system problems.

If your child is infected, it may take 2 to 8 days for symptoms to start.

Spread

- By sneezing or coughing.
- By touching contaminated hands, surfaces, or objects.

Contagious Period

For 3 to 8 days. Some infants can spread RSV for up to 4 weeks.

Call your Healthcare Provider

- If anyone in your home has symptoms. Your doctor may want to test for the virus. Infants who are hospitalized may be treated with a special medication called antiviral drug.

Prevention

- Cover nose and mouth when sneezing or coughing. Use a tissue or your sleeve. Dispose of used tissues.
- Wash hands after touching anything that could be contaminated with the secretions from the mouth or nose. Your child may need help with hand washing.
- DO NOT share drink containers and cups or silverware. Wash all dishes with hot soapy water between uses.
- Clean and disinfect anything that comes in contact with secretions from the nose or mouth. Use a product that kills germs.
- Some babies, including infants who were born prematurely, can be given a medication to prevent infection. Talk to your healthcare provider.

For more information, please contact your local health department.

[Carson City Health & Human Services](#) (Carson City, Douglas, Lyon Counties) 775-434-1690 & 775-887-2190 (after hours)

[Central Nevada Health District](#) (Churchill, Mineral, Eureka, Pershing Counties) 775-866-7535

[Northern Nevada Public Health](#) (Washoe County) 775-328-2447 (24 hours)

[Southern Nevada Health District](#) (Clark County) 775-759-1300 (24 hours)

[Division of Public and Behavioral Health](#) (All other Counties) 775-400-0333 (24 hours)

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