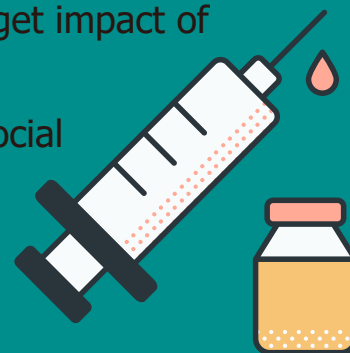


Protocol for a HTA of immunisation against respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) in Ireland

What are we doing?

At the request of the Department of Health, we are undertaking a health technology assessment (HTA) of immunisation of infants and or older adults age 65+ against RSV in Ireland. It will:

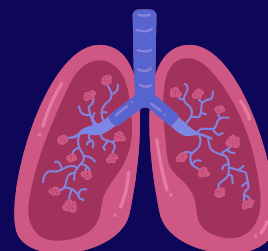
- assess the clinical effectiveness, cost effectiveness and budget impact of alternative RSV immunisation strategies
- consider the organisational, resource, ethical, patient and social implications associated with these alternative strategies
- include emerging international evidence and incorporate experience from the HSE's ongoing RSV Immunisation Pathfinder Programme.



This protocol outlines the terms of reference and the methodology for the HTA and can be found [here](#).

What is RSV?

- RSV is a highly contagious virus that spreads every winter, affecting the lungs and upper airways.
- It is transmitted by coughing, sneezing or breathing.
- While RSV infection can usually be managed without seeing a doctor, in some cases severe infections can lead to hospitalisation.
- Infants, young children and older adults are particularly vulnerable to serious complications from RSV.



How will our report be used?

The HTA will serve as advice to the Minister for Health and HSE to inform a policy decision on the most appropriate RSV immunisation strategy for infants and or adults aged 65+ for the 2026-2027 RSV season and beyond.



Find out more

- HIQA's rapid HTA of immunisation against respiratory syncytial virus in Ireland can be found [here](#).
- Further information on RSV can be found [here](#).
- Information on the early impact of the HSE's RSV Pathfinder Programme can be found [here](#).

