Adult RSV Schedule

On the NIP from May 15th 2026

2026 UPDATE

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

1 DOSE OF AREXVY®

- Adults >75 years
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander >60 years

WHY DOES IT MATTER?

- RSV is highly contagious
- Older adults are at a significantly higher risk of serious illness.[1]
- RSV hospitalisation rates are around 7 times higher in adults aged 65+ compared with adults aged 5–64 years.[1]
- RSV can cause pneumonia, bronchiolitis and worsening of existing cardiac and respiratory disease [2]
- More than 1 in 3 older adults experience functional decline following RSV hospitalisation[3]

WHAT SHOULD PHARMACIST DO NOW?

- [ ] Review patients aged 75+
- [ ] Identify Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients >60
- [ ] Familiarise yourself with the Australian Immunisation Handbook recommendations
- [ ] Start making confident recommendations

PHARMACIST HOT TIPS

Most older adults have heard of influenza and COVID-19. Few understand RSV, despite its significant impact on hospitalisations, functional decline and loss of independence.
The opportunity isn't just to vaccinate. It's to help patients understand the burden of disease before it affects them.

1. Foley D and Phuong L. Aust Prescr. 2025;48:34-39.
2. Saravanos G et al. Med. J. Aust. 2019. 210: 447-453
3. Branche AR, et al. J Am Geriatr Soc. 2022;70(12):3478-3485