

Influenza and RSV in Adults

Kansas City Southwest Clinical Society

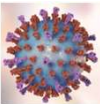
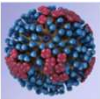
Joel P. McKinsey, M.D., FIDSA
Metro Infectious Disease Consultants
February 2, 2024



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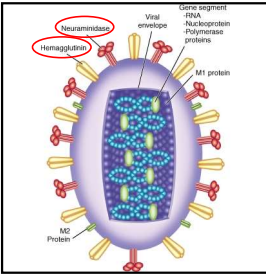
Outline

- Influenza
 - Virology
 - Epidemics vs. Pandemics
 - Clinical course
 - Testing
 - Treatment
 - Prevention
- RSV in Adults
 - Virology
 - Clinical course
 - Testing
 - Treatment
 - Prevention
- Closing Thoughts



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Influenza Virus Structure



H: Hemagglutinin
Viral attachment to cell membranes; membrane fusion

At least 18 highly divergent, antigenically distinct HAs in influenza A viruses (H1 to H18)
[H17 & H18 have thus far only been found in bats]

N: Neuraminidase
Cleaves sialic acid from cell surface; released from membranes; prevents aggregation

At least eleven distinct NAs (N1 to N11)



Mandell, Principles and Practice of Infectious Diseases
PLOS Pathogens <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.ppat.1010062> May 19, 2022

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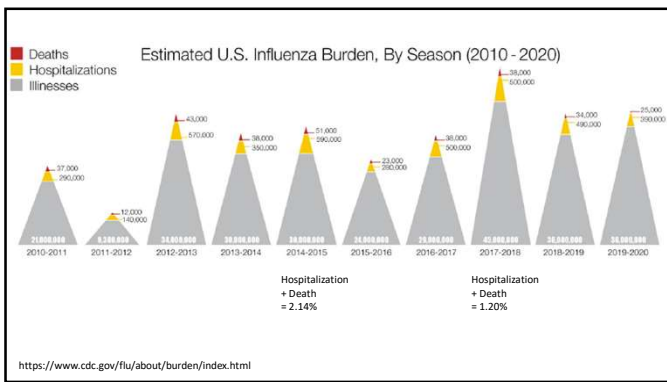
Influenza

Antigenic Drift
Point mutations cause a minor change

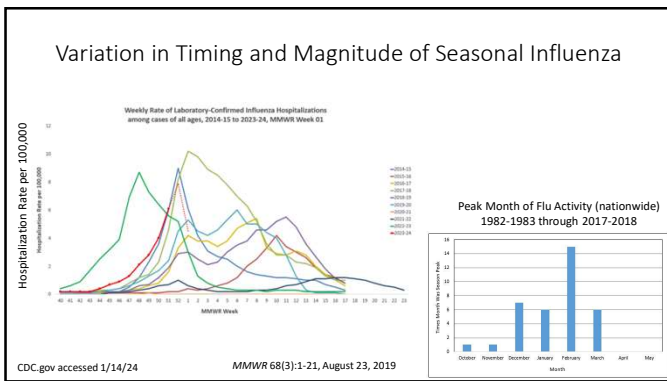
- Recurrent epidemics of febrile respiratory disease have occurred every 1 to 3 years for at least the past 400 years
- Epidemics – “*Seasonal Influenza*” occur most years (a result of antigenic drift)
 - From 2010 – 2018 in the U.S.¹
 - 4.3 – 23 million medical visits yearly
 - 140,000 – 960,000 influenza-related excess hospitalizations yearly
 - 12,000 – 79,000 annual deaths
 - 90% of deaths in persons 65 and older²
 - 37% of hospitalizations among persons younger than 65²
 - average annual total economic burden \$11.2 billion³

¹Clinical Infectious Diseases 2019;68(6):e1-47 ²PLOS Medicine 2013; 10(11):e1001558 ³Vaccine 2018;36(27):3960-3966

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Influenza

Antigenic Shift
Exchange of gene segments results in major change from parent

- **Pandemics** – global epidemics, occur erratically² (a result of antigenic shift)
- Pandemics occur when a ‘new’ influenza virus capable of human-to-human transmission enters the population
- The first recorded pandemic that clearly fits the description of influenza occurred in 1580
(32 pandemics have been recorded since – on average one every ~14 years)
- The worst pandemic in recorded history occurred in 1918-1919

Pandemic	U.S. Deaths	World Deaths
2009 H1N1	12,000	284,000
1968-69 H3N2 “Hong Kong Flu”	34,000	1 Million
1957-58 H2N2 “Asian Flu”	70,000	2 Million
1918-19 H1N1 “Spanish Flu”	>550,000	20-50 Million

Mandell, Principles and Practice of Infectious Diseases ²Emerging Infectious Diseases 12(1):15, 2006

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Pandemic Influenza A Strains Become the Seasonal Influenza Strains

Historical circulation of influenza viruses in the last century

Nature Communications (2022) 13:1721

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Seasonal Influenza

In recent years, two dominant strains of Influenza A and two strains of Influenza B have circulated. The proportions of these vary year by year and vary throughout an epidemic.

Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC by U.S. Public Health Laboratories, National Summary, 2017-2018 Season

Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC by U.S. Public Health Laboratories, National Summary, 2018-2019 Season

CDC.gov WHO.int

It appears that as an indirect result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Influenza B Yamagata may have become extinct

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Clinical Aspects of Influenza



"We've got that durned influenza agin" by A.B. Frost
Kansas City Star November 27, 1918

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Seasonal Influenza Clinical Course

- Incubation period 1 – 2 days
- Sudden onset of:
 - Fever, usually lasts 3 days, up to 8
 - Chills, Body aches, Sore throat
 - Non-productive cough, Runny nose, Headache
 - Emesis and diarrhea (more common in children)
- Viral pneumonia uncommon
- Low death rate except in the elderly
- High attack rate in those living in close proximity

Symptom or sign	No. (%) of symptoms reported at illness onset	
	Influenza A (n = 260)	Influenza B (n = 18)
Runny nose or nasal congestion	19 (73)	11 (61)
Cough	18 (69)	14 (78)
Sore throat	14 (54)	7 (39)
Headache	14 (54)	5 (28)
Myalgia	12 (46)	5 (28)
Pharyngitis	9 (35)	6 (33)
Fever $\geq 37.5^{\circ}\text{C}$	8 (31)	8 (44)

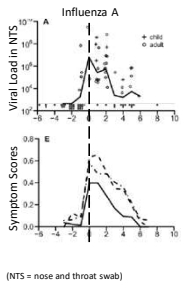
NOTE: All onset is defined as the first day with ≥ 2 of the 7 signs or symptoms listed.



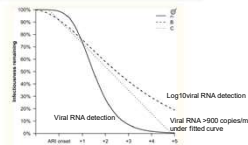
J Infect Dis 2010 May; 201(10): 1509–1516

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Duration of Viral Shedding in Influenza



- Virus can be detected the day before illness onset, virus levels peak within 24 hours after onset
 - Highest infectious period is within 3 days after symptom onset
- Young children can be infectious for longer periods
- Critically ill patients might have longer influenza viral replication in the lower respiratory tract
- Severely immunocompromised persons can be infectious for weeks to months



In a study of household contacts of people with influenza

J Infect Dis 2010 May; 201(10): 1509–1516

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Which Influenza Test is Recommended?

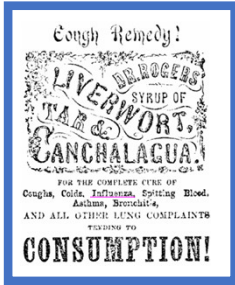
- **Outpatients:**
 - Rapid influenza molecular assays are recommended over rapid influenza antigen detection tests
- **Hospitalized patients:**
 - RT-PCR or other molecular assays are recommended Influenza A&B PCR or 'combo' flu/RSV/COVID-19 PCR
 - **Rapid antigen detection tests are not recommended** and should not be used unless molecular assays are not available
 - follow-up testing with RT-PCR or other molecular assays should be performed to confirm negative rapid antigen results
 - Immunocompromised patients: Multiplex RT-PCR assays targeting a panel of respiratory pathogens, including influenza viruses are recommended

Clinical Practice Guidelines by the Infectious Diseases Society of America 2018 Update on Diagnosis, Treatment, Chemoprophylaxis, and Institutional Outbreak Management of Seasonal Influenza^a
 Clinical Infectious Diseases 2019;68(6):e1-47

RT-PCR on lower respiratory tract specimen if nasopharyngeal PCR is negative (10-19% in intubated patients)

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INFLUENZA TREATMENT



Cough Remedy!
DR. ROGEE'S
LIVERWORT
 SYRUP OF
TAR & CANCHALAGUA
 FOR THE COMPLETE CURE OF
 Coughs, Colds, Influenza, Spitting Blood,
 Asthma, Bronchitis,
 AND ALL OTHER LUNG COMPLAINTS
 TENDING TO
CONSUMPTION!

Liberty, MO
 Weekly Tribune
 February 10, 1854

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Recommended Antivirals for Treatment of Influenza, U.S. 2023-24

Four antivirals are available to treat influenza:

- All have demonstrated efficacy and are FDA-approved for early treatment (<2 days of illness onset) in outpatients with uncomplicated influenza

Antiviral Drug	Route of Administration	Recommended Ages for Treatment	COST
Oseltamivir	Oral (twice daily x 5d)	All ages	~\$25-70*
Zanamivir	Inhaled (twice daily x 5d)	≥7 years	~\$70*
Peramivir	Intravenous (single infusion)	≥6 months	~\$1000*
Baloxavir	Oral (single dose)	≥5 years (otherwise healthy) ≥12 years (high-risk)	~\$170*


Neuraminidase inhibitors (points to Oseltamivir, Zanamivir, Peramivir)
Cap-dependent endonuclease inhibitor (points to Baloxavir)

CDC.gov
<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/antivirals/summary-clinicians.htm>
* per Dr. Google 1/2024

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Influenza Treatment Summary

For Adults



- Treatment started within 36 hours of symptom onset reduced illness duration by 25.2 hours and reduced the risk of lower respiratory tract complications by 44%
- Single-dose baloxavir had similar median time to alleviation

Special Populations

- Pregnant women and up to two weeks postpartum
 - Oseltamivir is recommended (lack of data for others)
- Immunocompromised patients
 - Baloxavir is not recommended (risk of resistance emergence due to prolonged viral replication)
- Hospitalized patients
 - Antiviral treatment is recommended ASAP even if beyond 48 hours from symptom onset
 - Inhaled zanamivir and oral baloxavir are not recommended (lack of data)
- Critically ill patients
 - Optimal duration of oseltamivir is unclear

<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/antivirals/summary-clinicians.htm>

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INFLUENZA PREVENTION

**BILE BEANS
AND INFLUENZA.**

"PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE."


The only really preventable influenza if you go about it the right way. This dread complaint will never again threaten anyone here because we've done and we should. Those who keep in the job of medicine need their fingers at it. Liver, spleen, stomach, intestines and similar ailments have one common origin, namely, the condition of the body. When the supply of energy is adequate, the pale organs, the digestive tract, and the cells cannot get a hold. Once the vitality has been lowered the work just cannot stop. One, Forder's Bile Beans will keep the body in the "pink of condition." They act directly upon the liver, and not that cause of so many ailments—constipation. They stimulate the circulation, improve the digestion and increase the energy of the whole system. Women especially find them beneficial. Always remember that prevention of influenza and its allied ailments is better than cure, and that experience shows no preventive known equal to Bile Beans.

The Daily Telegraph (London)
21 Nov 1902, Fri - Page 4

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Influenza Vaccine Recommendations


on one hand...



Easy

Vaccinate everyone
>6 months old
every year


on the other hand...



Hard

Which vaccine?

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 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report
 Recommendations and Reports / Vol. 72 / No. 2
 August 25, 2023

Prevention and Control of Seasonal Influenza with Vaccines: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices — United States, 2023–24 Influenza Season

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TABLE 1. Influenza vaccines — United States, 2023–24 influenza season*

Trade name (manufacturer)	Presentation	Age indication	µg HA (RIV4s and RIV4) or virus count (LAIV4) for each vaccine virus (per dose)	Route	Mercury (from thimerosal, if present) µg/0.5 mL
RIV4 (standard-dose, egg-based vaccines^b)					
Afluria Quadrivalent (Seqirus)	0.5-mL PFS ^c 5.0-mL MDV ^d	≥3 yrs ^e ≥6 mos ^f (needle and syringe) 18 through 64 yrs (jet injector)	15 µg/0.5 mL 7.5 µg/0.25 mL 15 µg/0.5 mL	IM ^g	— ^h 24.5
Fluarix Quadrivalent (GSKSmithKline)	0.5-mL PFS	≥6 mos	15 µg/0.5 mL	IM ^g	—
Fluzone Quadrivalent (GSKSmithKline)	0.5-mL PFS	≥6 mos	15 µg/0.5 mL	IM ^g	—
Fluzone Quadrivalent (Sanofi Pasteur)	0.5-mL PFS ⁱ 0.5-mL SDV ⁱⁱ 5.0-mL MDV ⁱⁱ	≥6 mos ⁱⁱ ≥6 mos ⁱⁱ ≥6 mos ⁱⁱ	15 µg/0.5 mL 15 µg/0.5 mL 15 µg/0.5 mL	IM ^g	— — 25.0
ccRIV4 (standard-dose, cell culture-based vaccine)					
Flucelvax Quadrivalent (Seqirus)	0.5-mL PFS 5.0-mL MDV	≥6 mos ≥6 mos	15 µg/0.5 mL 15 µg/0.5 mL	IM ^g	— 25.0
HD-RIV4 (high-dose, egg-based vaccine^b)					
Fluzone High-Dose Quadrivalent (Sanofi Pasteur)	0.7-mL PFS	≥65 yrs	60 µg/0.7 mL	IM ^g	—
aRIV4 (standard-dose, egg-based vaccine^b with MF59 adjuvant)					
Fluzone Quadrivalent (Seqirus)	0.5-mL PFS	≥65 yrs	15 µg/0.5 mL	IM ^g	—
RIV4 (recombinant HA vaccine)					
Flublok Quadrivalent (Sanofi Pasteur)	0.5-mL PFS	≥18 yrs	45 µg/0.5 mL	IM ^g	—
LAIV4 (egg-based vaccine^b)					
FluMist Quadrivalent (AstraZeneca)	0.2-mL prefilled single-use intranasal sprayer	2 through 49 yrs	10 ^{6.5–7.5} fluorescent focus units/0.2 mL	NAS	—




5 types
9 options

MMWR 72(2):1–25, August 25, 2023

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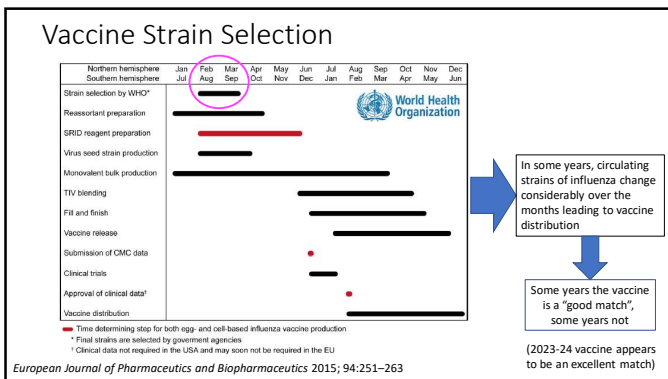
Flu Shot – What to Do

- Use what you have, try to vaccinate everyone >6 months old
- 65 and over: high-dose or adjuvant
- Concern about egg allergy: cell-based or recombinant (since 2016 egg allergies are no longer considered a contraindication to flu vaccine)
- Concern about thimerosal: single dose (Data from many studies show no evidence of harm caused by the low doses of thimerosal in vaccines. Studies reveal no link between thimerosal and autism.)
- FluMist (nasal spray) available but injection preferred

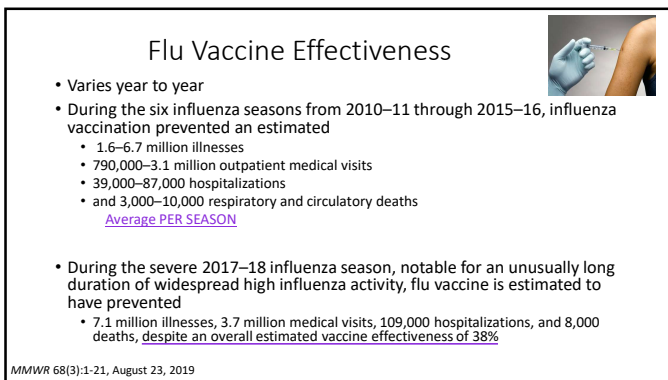




www.cdc.gov

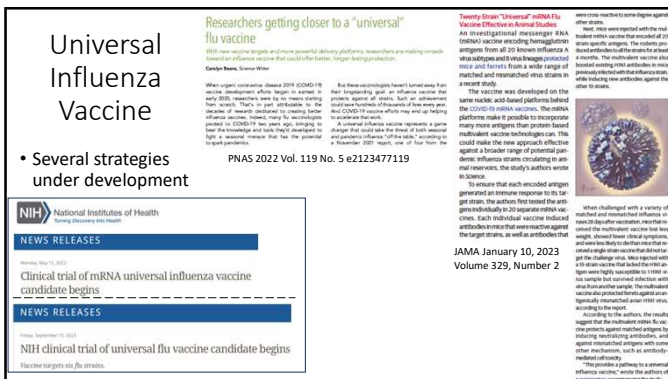
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


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Respiratory Syncytial Virus



- In children:
 - RSV is the most common cause of bronchiolitis and pneumonia in children under 12 months of age
 - In the U.S. there are between 75,000 and 125,000 children hospitalized each year due to complications of RSV infection
 - Est. globally there are 64 million cases of RSV annually that result in 253,500 deaths
 - Almost all children will have had an RSV infection by their second birthday
- In adults:
 - RSV is associated with up to 12% of medically attended acute respiratory illnesses
 - <1% require hospitalization
 - RSV is the third most commonly identified viral cause among respiratory viruses resulting in hospitalization (pre-COVID-19 pandemic)

J Virology July 2014 88(13): 7602-7617 CDC.gov PLoS ONE 2017 12(8): e0182321 Influenza Other Resp Viruses 2022;16:1133-1140

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RSV VIRION STRUCTURE

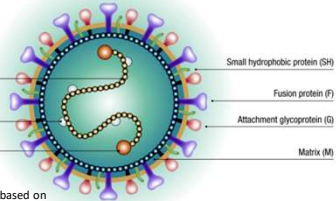
RSV is a member of the *Paramyxoviridae* family and contains a continuous, single-stranded negative-sense RNA genome

RSV has a non-segmented genome, so unlike Influenza it cannot reassort genome segments and thus does not cause large-scale pandemics

Nucleoprotein (N)

Phosphoprotein (P)

Large RNA polymerase (L)



Small hydrophobic protein (SH)

Fusion protein (F)

Attachment glycoprotein (G)

Matrix (M)


RSV strains are separated into two major groups (A and B) based on antigenic and genetic variability. The main differences are found in the attachment glycoprotein G. RSV G protein interacts with host cell receptors, is a target for neutralizing antibodies, and is highly variable. This variability might contribute to the ability of the virus to cause yearly outbreaks.

Other members of the *Paramyxoviridae* family include measles, mumps, human metapneumovirus, and the zoonoses Hendra and Nipah viruses

Journal of Virology July 2014 Volume 88 Number 13 p. 7602-7617
 Cureus 15(3): e36342 Virology Journal 2014, 11:36 Italian J Pediatrics 47, 198 (2021)

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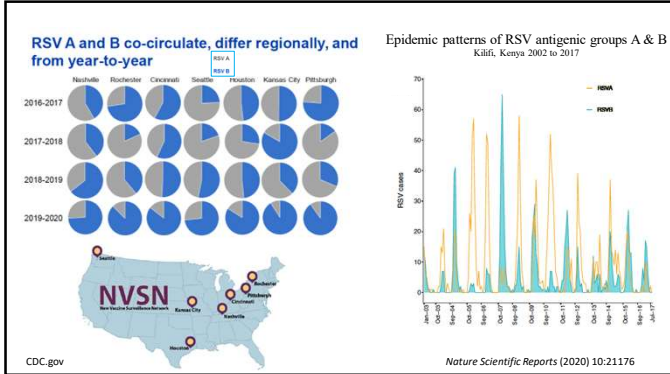
RSV Immunity after Natural Infection



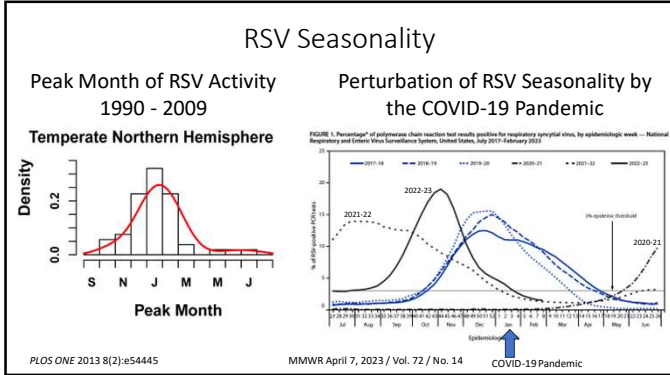
- Natural RSV infection does not provide durable or complete protection from reinfection.
- Anti-RSV antibodies return to pre-infection levels within 6 months after infection.
- Reinfection can occur within two months of last infection.
- Older adults have weaker IFN γ responses to RSV than younger adults, likely making them more susceptible to infection and to severe infection.

J Infectious Diseases 1991; 163:693-698 Am J Respir Crit Care Med 2015; 191(9): 1040-1049 J Medical Virology 2006; 78:1493-1497

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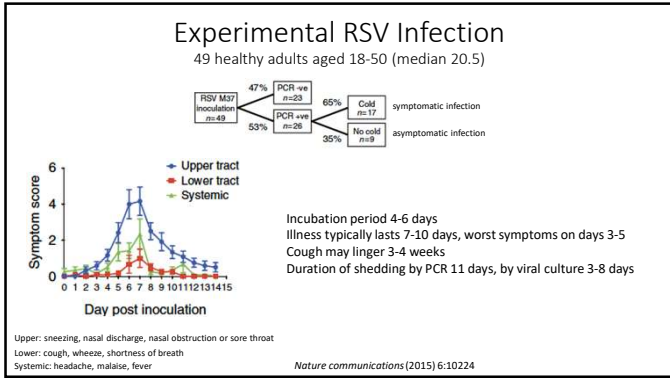
Symptoms of RSV Infection

- Runny nose
- Coughing
- Sneezing
- Fever
- Wheezing (more common with RSV than other respiratory viruses)
- Decrease in appetite

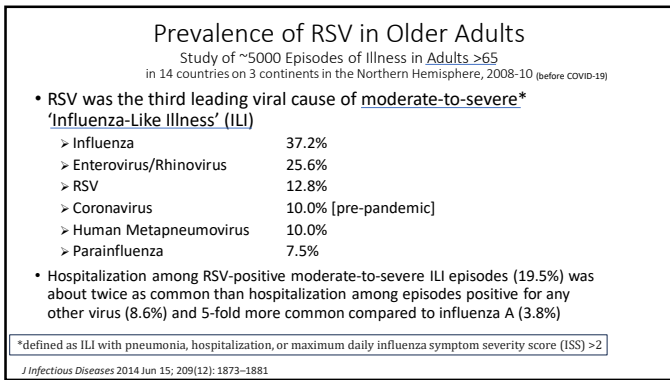


CDC.gov

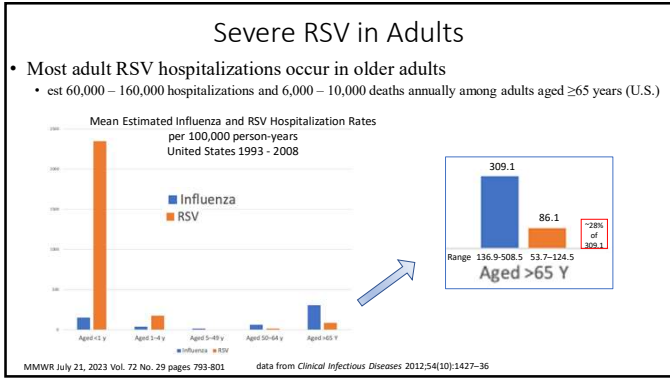
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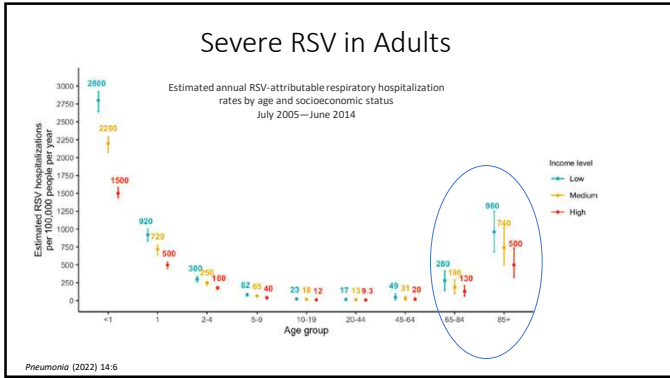


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Morbidity and Mortality in Older Adults (aged ≥60 years) Hospitalized with RSV

Characteristics of a random sample of patients aged ≥60 years hospitalized with laboratory-confirmed RSV infection (N = 1,634), RSV-Associated Hospitalization Surveillance Network, 12 states, October 2022–April 2023.

Characteristic	No.	Weighted % (95% CI)
Underlying medical condition		
≥1 underlying medical condition***	1,084	95.3 (93.2–97.2)
Chronic lung disease	815	49.2 (48.2–50.7)
COPD	552	33.7 (30.5–37.0)
Asthma	332	18.1 (16.6–21.8)
Other††	72	5.4 (3.8–7.3)
Cardiovascular disease	1,108	67.8 (65.7–70.5)
CHD/MI	545	33.2 (30.0–36.5)
CHF***	451	26.4 (23.5–29.5)
LVH***	251	15.7 (13.7–18.0)
Immunocompromising condition	292	18.6 (16.0–21.4)
Diabetes mellitus	551	32.6 (29.5–35.8)
Neurologic condition	439	27.3 (24.3–30.5)
Dementia††††	185	12.4 (10.1–15.0)
Other	254	14.9 (12.6–17.4)
Kidney disorder	477	29.3 (26.3–32.3)
Obesity	572	37.8 (34.3–41.4)

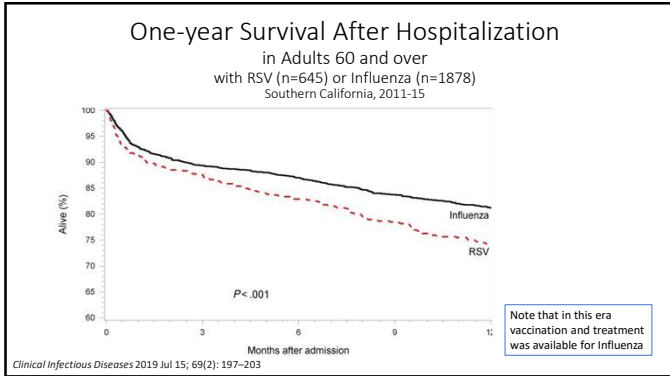
Hospitalization outcome ^{§§}	Rate (95% CI)	%
Hospital stay, days, median (IQR)	4.1 (2.2–7.6)	—
BiPAP/CPAP	339	19.8 (17.3–22.6)
High-flow nasal cannula	80	4.3 (3.2–5.7)
≥1 severe outcome ^{§§}	332	18.5 (15.9–21.2)
ICU admission	297	17.0 (14.5–19.7)
Invasive mechanical ventilation	94	4.8 (3.5–6.3)
In-hospital death	98	4.7 (3.6–6.1)

†† Severe outcome is defined as requiring ICU admission or mechanical ventilation or experiencing in-hospital death.

*** Defined as one or more of the following: chronic lung disease, including asthma; chronic metabolic disease including diabetes mellitus; blood disorder or hemoglobinopathy; cardiovascular disease; neurologic disorder; immunocompromising condition; renal disease; gastrointestinal or liver disease; rheumatologic, autoimmune, or inflammatory condition; obesity; feeding tube dependency; and wheelchair dependency.

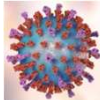
MMWR October 6, 2023, Vol. 72, No. 40 pages 1075–1082

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RSV Testing



- Current rapid antigen tests
 - Sensitivity ~80%, specificity ~95%
- Rapid molecular test
 - Sensitivity 90-98%, specificity 99-100%
- Multiplex PCR
 - Sensitivity 95-100%, specificity 99-100%



Clin Microbiol Rev 2017 Jan; 30(1): 277-319

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RSV Treatment in Adults


- For most adults, treatment is supportive
- For those with lower tract infection who present with cough and wheezing, bronchodilators may result in symptom relief, particularly if the patient has underlying reactive airway disease
- Treatment in immunocompromised patients has not been well studied and the optimal approach is uncertain
 - Ribavirin (oral vs. inhaled) and IVIG can be used in those who are severely immunocompromised, such as hematopoietic cell and lung-transplant recipients and selected persons with leukemia

Clinical Infectious Diseases 2013;56(2):258-66

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RSV Vaccine in Adults

- On June 21, 2023, ACIP voted to recommend that adults aged ≥ 60 years may receive a single dose of an RSV vaccine, using shared clinical decision-making. ("Talk to your doctor.")



MMWR July 21, 2023 Vol. 72 No. 29 pages 793-801

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Efficacy of RSV Vaccines

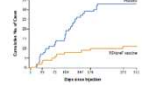


TABLE 1. Efficacy of 1 dose of GSK respiratory syncytial virus RSVPreF3 vaccine against respiratory syncytial virus-associated disease among adults aged ≥60 years — multiple countries, 2021–2023

Efficacy evaluation period	Vaccine efficacy against outcome*	
	RSV-associated LRTD [†]	RSV-associated medically attended LRTD [‡]
Season 1 [¶]	82.6 (57.9–94.1)**	87.5 (58.9–97.6)††
Season 2 ^{¶¶}	56.1 (28.2–74.4)†††	— ^{¶¶}
Combined seasons 1 and 2 (interim)**	74.5 (60.0–84.5)†††	77.3 (57.9–89.0)†††

TABLE 3. Efficacy of 1 dose of Pfizer respiratory syncytial virus RSVpreF vaccine against respiratory syncytial virus-associated disease among adults aged ≥60 years — multiple countries, 2021–2023

Efficacy evaluation period	Vaccine efficacy against outcome, % (95% CI)*	
	RSV associated LRTD [†]	RSV associated medically attended LRTD [‡]
Season 1 [¶]	88.9 (53.6–98.7)	84.6 (32.0–98.3)
Season 2 (interim)**	78.6 (23.2–96.1)	— ^{††}
Combined seasons 1 and 2 (interim) ^{¶¶}	84.4 (59.6–95.2)	81.0 (43.5–95.2)

LRTD = lower respiratory tract disease
 * LRTD defined as two or more lower respiratory symptoms (new or increased sputum, cough, and dyspnea) or signs (new or increased wheezing, crackles or rhonchi) detected during chest auscultation, respiratory rate ≥20 respirations per minute, low or decreased oxygen saturation (<95% or <90% if baseline was <95%) and need for oxygen supplementation) for ≥24 hours, including one or more lower respiratory signs, or three or more lower respiratory symptoms for ≥24 hours.
 † Medically attended RSV-associated LRTD defined as LRTD plus attention at one or more inpatient or outpatient health care service. Estimates were not included in per-protocol assessments.
 ‡ Neither of the two clinical trials that led to FDA approval of RSV vaccines for older adults was powered to assess protection against hospitalization, though both trials showed moderate to high efficacy of RSV vaccination against LRTD, which is in the causal pathway leading to severe disease
 ¶ Season 1 (interim) data were available for 2021–2022. Season 2 (interim) data were available for 2022–2023.
 ¶¶ Season 2 (interim) data were available for 2022–2023.
 ** Season 1 (interim) and Season 2 (interim) data were available for 2021–2023.
 †† Season 1 (interim) and Season 2 (interim) data were available for 2021–2023.
 ††† Season 1 (interim) and Season 2 (interim) data were available for 2021–2023.
 N Engl J Med 2023;388:1465–77.
 MMWR July 21, 2023. Vol. 72 No. 29 pages 793–801

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Safety of RSV Vaccines

TABLE 2. Safety* of 1 dose of GSK respiratory syncytial virus RSVPreF3 vaccine in adults aged ≥60 years — multiple countries, 2021–2023

Safety event	Risk for event		
	RSVPreF3 recipients no./No. (%) [†]	Placebo recipients no./No. (%) [‡]	Relative risk (95% CI) [§]
Severe AE**	549/12,570 (4.4)	540/12,604 (4.3)	1.02 (0.91–1.15)
Severe reactivity	37/979 (3.8)	9/976 (0.9)	4.10 (1.99–8.45)
Inflammatory neurologic events ^{¶¶}	3 events in trials without placebo recipients ^{¶¶}	— ^{¶¶}	— ^{¶¶}

TABLE 4. Safety* of 1 dose of Pfizer respiratory syncytial virus RSVpreF vaccine in adults aged ≥60 years — multiple countries, 2021–2023

Safety event	Risk for event		
	RSVpreF recipients no./No. (%) [†]	Placebo recipients no./No. (%) [‡]	Relative risk (95% CI) [§]
Serious AE**	792/18619 (4.3%)	749/18334 (4.1%)	1.04 (0.94–1.15)
Severe reactivity	36/3673 (1.0%)	24/3491 (0.7%)	1.43 (0.85–2.39)
Inflammatory neurologic events ^{¶¶}	3/18622 (—) ^{¶¶}	0/18335 (—) ^{¶¶}	— ^{¶¶}

One case of GBS and two cases of acute disseminated encephalomyelitis in 17,922 doses given over all trials
 One case each of GBS, Miller Fisher syndrome (a GBS variant), and undifferentiated motor-sensory axonal polyneuropathy
 GBS = Guillain-Barre Syndrome
 Whether these events occurred due to chance, or whether RSV vaccination increases the risk for inflammatory neurologic events is currently unknown. Until additional evidence becomes available, RSV vaccination in older adults should be targeted to those who are at highest risk for severe RSV disease and therefore most likely to benefit from vaccination.
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Underlying Medical Conditions and Other Factors Associated with Increased Risk for Severe RSV Disease

Chronic underlying medical conditions associated with increased risk

- Lung disease (such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and asthma)
- Cardiovascular diseases (such as congestive heart failure and coronary artery disease)
- Moderate or severe immune compromise*
- Diabetes mellitus
- Neurologic or neuromuscular conditions
- Kidney disorders
- Liver disorders
- Hematologic disorders

• Other underlying conditions that a health care provider determines might increase the risk for severe respiratory disease

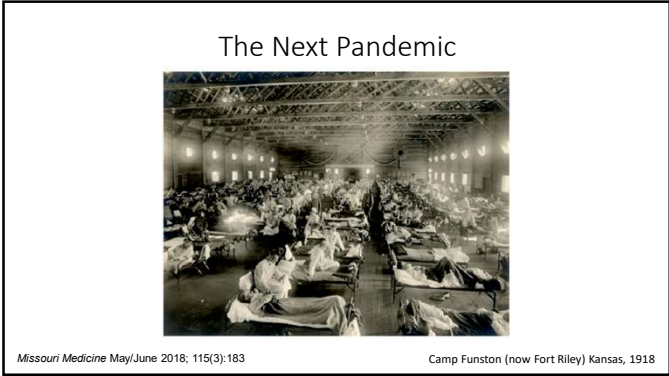
Other factors associated with increased risk

- Frailty[†]
- Advanced age[‡]
- Residence in a nursing home or other long-term care facility
- Other underlying factors that a health care provider determines might increase the risk for severe respiratory disease

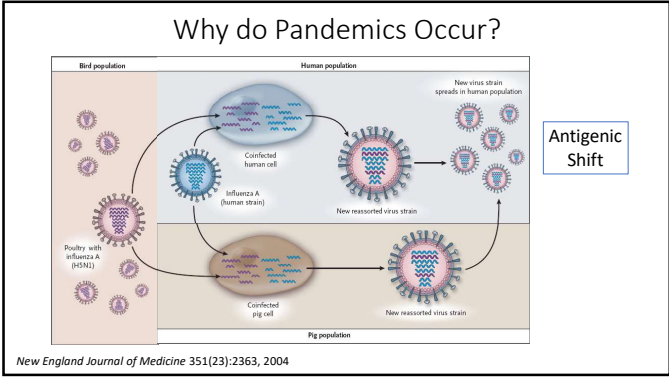
Abbreviations: RSV – respiratory syncytial virus.
 *A list of potentially immune compromising conditions is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/need-extra-precautions/people-whose-immune-system-is-compromised.html>.
 †Frailty is a multidimensional geriatric syndrome and reflects a state of increased vulnerability to adverse health outcomes. Although there is no consensus definition, one frequently used tool is the Fried frailty phenotype in which frailty is defined as a clinical syndrome with three or more of the following symptoms present: unintentional weight loss (10 lbs in past year), self-reported exhaustion, weakness (grip strength), slow walking speed, and low physical activity.
 ‡Among adults aged ≥60 years, RSV incidence increases with advancing age. Although age may be considered in determining an older adult patient's risk for severe RSV-associated disease, there is no specific age threshold at which RSV vaccination is most strongly recommended within the age group of adults aged ≥60 years.

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H5N1 in Migratory Birds

16 of the 18 known hemagglutinin (HA) subtypes and 9 of the 11 known neuraminidase (NA) subtypes have been identified in aquatic birds¹

AVIAN INFLUENZA

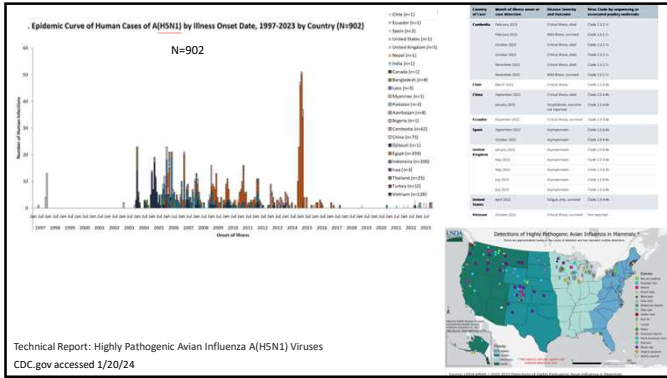
Evidence Points to Migratory Birds in H5N1 Spread

With the H5N1 avian influenza virus racing across the globe, scientists are debating new evidence on the role of migratory birds. As Science went to press, the virus had just been confirmed in a third African nation, Niger, one of the world's poorest countries. It had spread farther in Europe and Asia, with 13 sequences confirming outbreaks in just the past 2 months. And France reported the European Union's first outbreak in domestic poultry.

SCIENCE VOL 311 3 MARCH 2006
Published by AAAS

1PLOS Pathogens <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.ppat.1010062> May 19, 2022

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'Spillover Events' Continually Occur

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

Update: Increase in Human Infections with Novel Asian Lineage Avian Influenza A(H7N9) Viruses During the Fifth Epidemic — China, October 1, 2016–August 7, 2017

During March 31, 2013–August 7, 2017, a total of 1,557 human infections with Asian H7N9 viruses were reported, at least 605 (39%) of these infections resulted in death. All infections were either detected in mainland China, Hong Kong, and Macao, or associated with travel from mainland China (29 cases were exported to other countries).

Transboundary and Emerging Diseases

H9N2 influenza virus spillover into wild birds from poultry in China bind to human-type receptors and transmit in mammals via respiratory droplets

Xinghai Zhang, Yungang Li, Song Jin, Tiejing Wang, Wenyang Sun, Yiming Zhang, Fangou Li, Mengjie Zhuo, Lijuan Sun, Binjia Hu, Hai Feng, Ying Xie, Hongjun Zhao, ... See all authors

First published: 10 February 2021 | <https://doi.org/10.1111/irbd.14333> | Citations: 9

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The Next Pandemic

- It is not a question of if, but when the next influenza pandemic will occur, and how severe it will be. (Unless a universal influenza vaccine is developed, widely distributed, and accepted.)
- Recent events associated with the COVID-19 pandemic are worrisome
 - Significant deterioration of public health infrastructure in the face of direct threats
 - Lack of trust in public health measures and authorities
 - Legislative actions to try to limit the ability of public health to implement public health measures in a crisis
 - Lack of respect for the needs of the community vs. the individual
 - Lack of widespread (global) availability of effective prevention and treatment measures

Influenza pandemics occur on average every 14 years, the last was in 2009

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Influenza and RSV in Adults

Kansas City Southwest Clinical Society

Joel P. McKinsey, M.D., FIDSA
Metro Infectious Disease Consultants
February 2, 2024