

RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV)



Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) is a highly contagious virus that can lead to respiratory illness in babies, including lung infections such as bronchiolitis and pneumonia. The best time to learn about RSV is before your baby does. For more information, contact the East Hartford Health Department at 860-291-7324.

RSV SIGNS & SYMPTOMS

RSV can often mimic a cold or the flu. But as the infection becomes more severe so do the symptoms. RSV infections can go from mild symptoms to hospitalization in less than a week. Keep a close eye on your baby if you notice any of the following:

- ✓ Coughing
- ✓ Sneezing
- ✓ Congestion
- ✓ Runny nose
- ✓ Wheezing
- ✓ Fever
- ✓ Decreased appetite



WHEN TO SEEK MEDICAL CARE

Contact your doctor right away if your baby has the following symptoms:

- ✓ **Fever**
 - 100.4° F or higher for a baby < 3 mos
 - 102.2° F or higher for a baby > 3 mos
- ✓ **Wheezing cough**
- ✓ **Poor feeding**
When your baby has little interest in feeding or is not feeding enough.

Seek IMMEDIATE medical attention if your baby has:

- ✓ **Short, shallow, and abnormally fast breathing:**
Look for chest wall retractions (a "caving in" of the chest in between and under the ribs).
- ✓ **Nasal flaring:**
When your baby's nostrils spread out with every breath.
- ✓ **A blue tint to their lips or fingernails or is unusually tired.**

