

RSV vaccine leading to fewer young kid hospitalizations (Broadcast)

INTRO:

THERE WAS A STEEP DECLINE IN R-S-V HOSPITALIZATIONS AMONG INFANTS LAST R-S-V SEASON... OFFERING WELCOME RELIEF THIS TIME AROUND. HEALTH OFFICIALS POINT TO THE NEW VACCINES... AND PREVENTIVE ANTIBODIES AS THE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND THE TURNAROUND.

TAKE VO

R-S-V IS ONE OF THE MOST COMMON VIRUSES IN KIDS. IT USUALLY ATTACKS THE UPPER AIRWAY AND THE LUNGS... LEADING TO A LOT OF INFLAMMATION AND EXCESS SECRETIONS LIKE A RUNNY NOSE... STUFFY NOSE... AND EVEN RESPIRATORY DISTRESS. R-S-V IS THE LEADING CAUSE OF HOSPITALIZATIONS AMONG INFANTS IN THE U.S. ... THE C-D-C ESTIMATES BETWEEN 58-THOUSAND AND 80-THOUSAND KIDS GO TO THE HOSPITAL EACH YEAR DUE TO THE VIRUS.

IN THE FALL OF 2023 – TWO MAJOR PREVENTIVE PRODUCTS BECAME AVAILABLE IN THE U.S.

A MATERNAL VACCINE ADMINISTERED DURING PREGNANCY... GIVING BETWEEN 32 AND 36 WEEKS' GESTATION. AND A LONG-ACTING MONOCLONAL ANTIBODY FOR INFANTS... ZERO TO SEVEN MONTHS OLD... AND SOME CHILDREN BETWEEN EIGHT AND NINETEEN MONTHS... WHO ARE AT A HIGHER RISK.

DR. KELSEY GRIMES – AN OUTPATIENT PEDIATRICIAN WITH OSF HEALTHCARE – EXPLAINS MORE.

TAKE SOT | DR. KELSEY GRIMES | OUTPATIENT PEDIATRICIAN | OSF HEALTHCARE

“There’s still RSV. But we have seen a drastic decrease in hospitalizations and ICU stays, which is usually when kids get the increased work of breathing and need oxygen and support. When they're really little, it's hard for them to suck, swallow and breathe because of all the mucus and inflammation,” Dr. Grimes adds. “So sometimes even if they aren't being admitted for oxygen, it's because they're dehydrated.”

VO TAG

HOSPITALIZATIONS IN BABIES FROM ZERO TO SEVEN MONTHS DECREASED DRASTICALLY IN THE 2024 – 2025 R-S-V SEASON... AS DID FOR NEWBORNS. ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR BABIES WITH R-S-V SYMPTOMS INCLUDE SUCTIONING THE NOSE... USING HUMIDIFIERS IN ROOMS... OR STEAM FROM HOT SHOWERS... NASAL SALINE SPRAY AND WATCHING FOR SECONDARY BACTERIAL INFECTIONS... DR. GRIMES SAYS.