



Synagis

Synagis helps prevent your child from getting very sick from an RSV infection.

What is RSV?

RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) is a very common virus that usually causes a cold with runny nose, sore throat and/or fever. Some children, such as premature babies under 6 months of age, children with heart or chronic lung disease and children with weakened immune systems or generalized muscle weakness, are more likely to get very sick from an RSV infection. In these children, RSV can cause severe breathing problems.

What is Synagis?

It is a medicine that helps prevent your child from getting pneumonia or bronchiolitis due to RSV.

Is Synagis a vaccine?

No. There is no vaccine available for RSV. Synagis is a type of antibody. It works by helping your child's body fight off an RSV infection.

How is Synagis given?

It is injected with a needle into the thigh. For hematology patients or bone marrow transplant patients, it is infused into a vein through an existing IV line.

When is Synagis given?

Synagis is given when your child is in greatest need of protection from RSV circulating out in the community, typically from December through April.

Where will my child get the Synagis injections?

Once RSV season begins, you will need to take your child to their primary care doctor for monthly injections until RSV season is over.

However, if your child is hospitalized when RSV season begins, Synagis will be given to him/her just before discharge. Then, after you leave the hospital, you will need to take your child to their primary care doctor for monthly injections until RSV season is over.

How long does Synagis work?

It will help protect your child for about one month.

To Learn More

- Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
206-987-2041
- Ask your child's healthcare provider
- www.seattlechildrens.org

Free Interpreter Services

- In the hospital, ask your child's nurse.
- From outside the hospital, call the toll-free Family Interpreting Line 1-866-583-1527. Tell the interpreter the name or extension you need.

What are the side effects?

Synagis has few side effects. They are usually mild and do not last very long. Severe side effects are very rare. Side effects may include:

- A mild fever
- A rash
- Redness and soreness at the injection site

Can my child still get their other vaccines?

Yes. Synagis does not affect how well vaccines work. It can be given on the same day as your child's other vaccines.

If my child is sick, can they still get their Synagis?

If your child is very sick with a high fever, call your child's doctor to see if they want to wait until your child is well. If your child has a mild fever or cold, they can still get their Synagis injection.

Can my child still get RSV while taking Synagis?

Yes, but it lowers the chance of your child getting very sick from RSV. Synagis will not stop your child from getting other viral infections.