

Your guide to the **RSV** vaccine for older adults

How to protect
yourself by having the
Respiratory Syncytial
Virus (RSV) vaccine



RSV vaccination programme expanded to protect more from serious illness

From April 2026, RSV vaccination in England will be offered to:

- All adults aged 80 and over
- All residents in care homes for older adults

These groups face a higher risk of severe RSV infection, including hospitalisation and complications such as pneumonia. The expanded programme aims to reduce serious illness, support the NHS during winter pressures, and improve long-term vaccination coverage among those most likely to benefit.

This includes people who:

The newly expanded programme will sit alongside the existing eligibility criteria, which already offer RSV vaccination to adults turning 75 years old, adults aged 75 to 79 years when the programme began, and pregnant women, to protect their newborn babies through passive immunity.

Pregnant women remain a key group for RSV vaccination, as RSV is a leading cause of severe respiratory illness in infants.

Individuals eligible for both RSV and COVID-19 vaccines will be able to receive them at the same appointment once the spring 2026 COVID-19 vaccination campaign begins on 13 April 2026.