



# Updates on RSV Immunizations for Infants and Pregnant People

Missouri Hospital Association

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE



# Abrysvo and Nirsevimab for the prevention of severe RSV infection

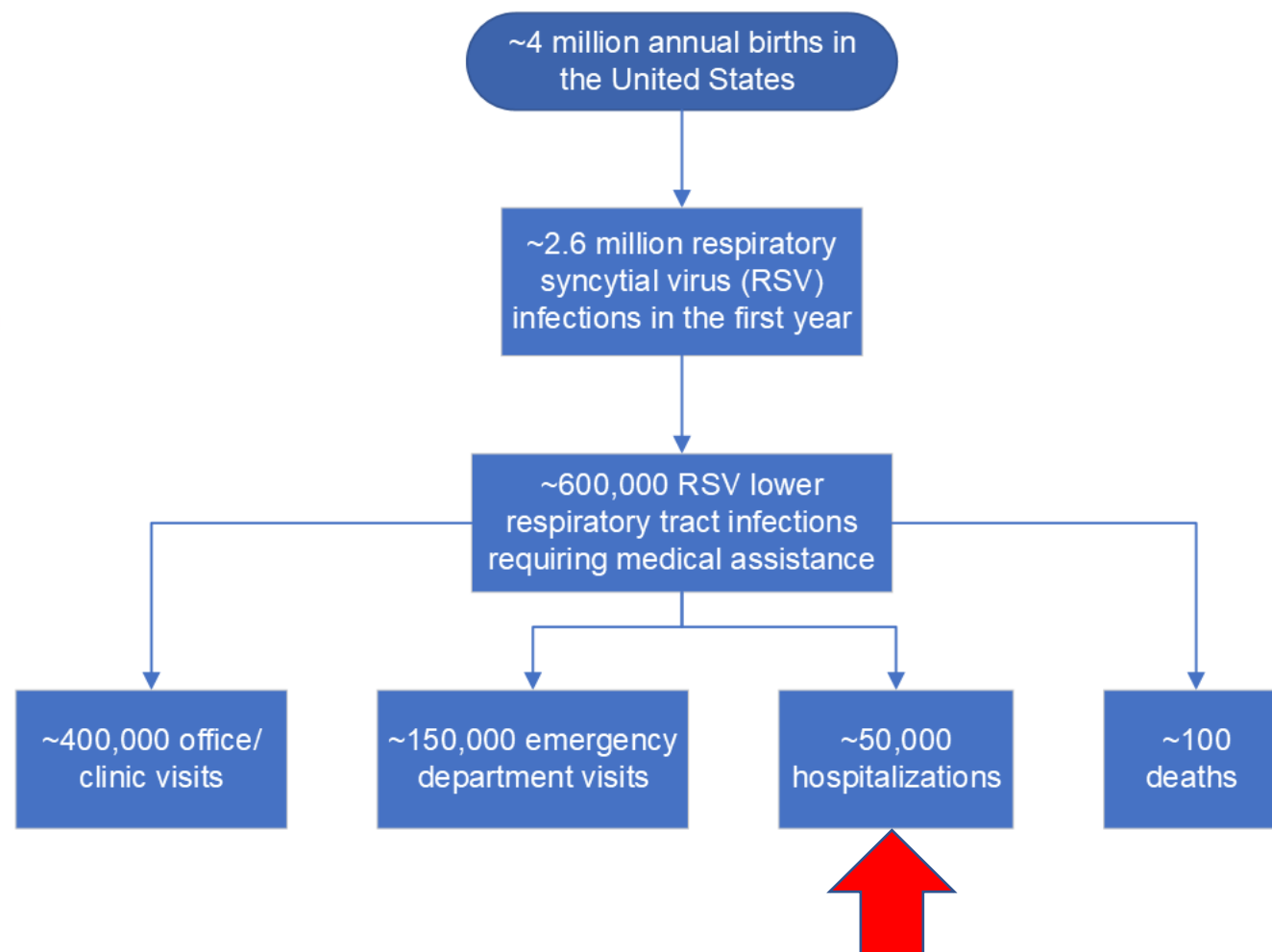
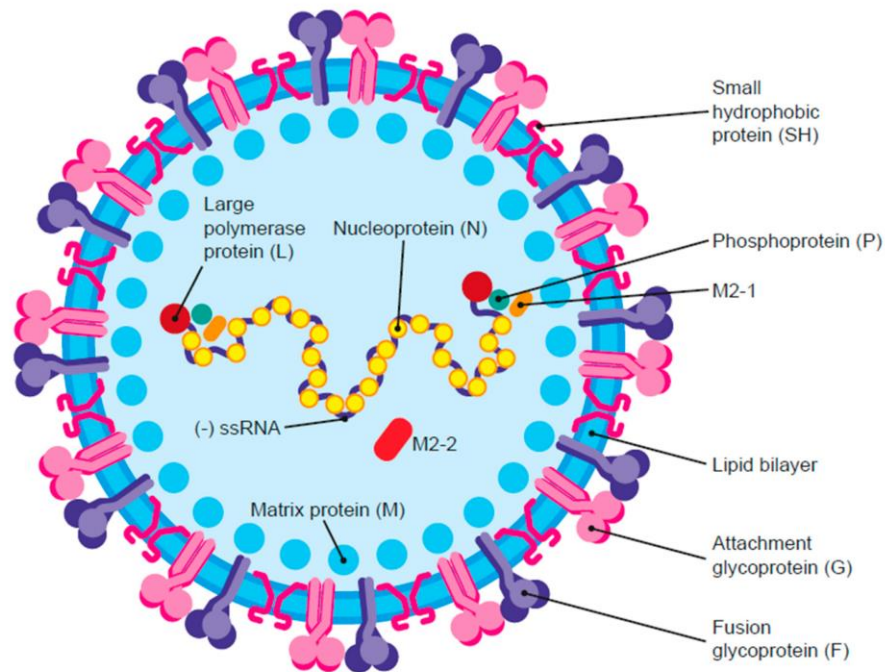
Christopher McPherson, PharmD

[mcphersonc@wustl.edu](mailto:mcphersonc@wustl.edu)

Genomic RNA



RSV virion structure



80% of hospitalizations occur in term infants with no past medical history

# Palivizumab in $\leq 35$ weeks GA or BPD (N=1502)

**TABLE 2.** Summary of Analysis of RSV Hospitalization

	Placebo	Palivizumab	% Reduction (95% CI)	P Value
Primary analysis (incidence of RSV hospitalizations)*	53/500 (10.6%)	48/1002 (4.8%)	55% (38, 72)	<.001
Alternative analysis (Kaplan-Meier†)	53/500 (10.6%)	48/1002 (4.8%)	55% (38, 72)	<.001
Sensitivity analyses				
Dropout before 150 days and no endpoint‡	53/500 (10.6%)	49/1002 (4.9%)	55% (38, 72)	<.001
Respiratory hospitalization but no RSV test done§	56/500 (11.2%)	54/1002 (5.4%)	52% (35, 69)	<.001
Primary inclusion populations				
Premature (no BPD)	19/234 (8.1%)	9/506 (1.8%)	78% (66, 90)	<.001
BPD	34/266 (12.8%)	39/496 (7.9%)	39% (20, 58)	.038

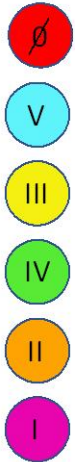
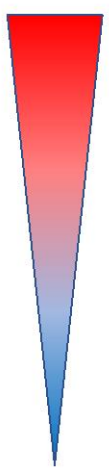
- Fewer days of hospitalization (-0.33 days,  $p < 0.001$ )
- Fewer ICU admissions (3% vs. 1.3%,  $p = 0.026$ )
- NNT to prevent one hospitalization = 17

**\$3,400 per vial;  
\$20,000 per course**

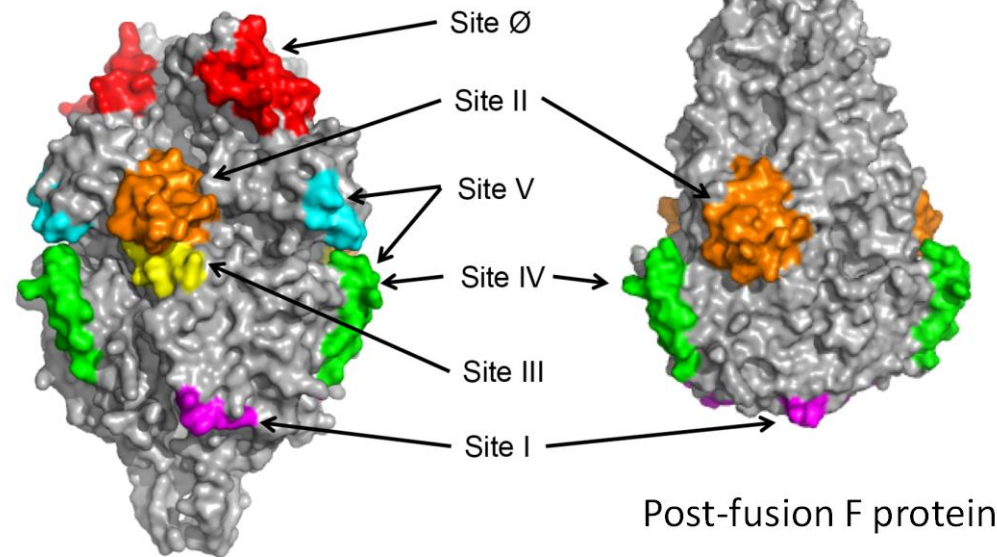
# Abrysvo (FDA approved 8/21/2023)



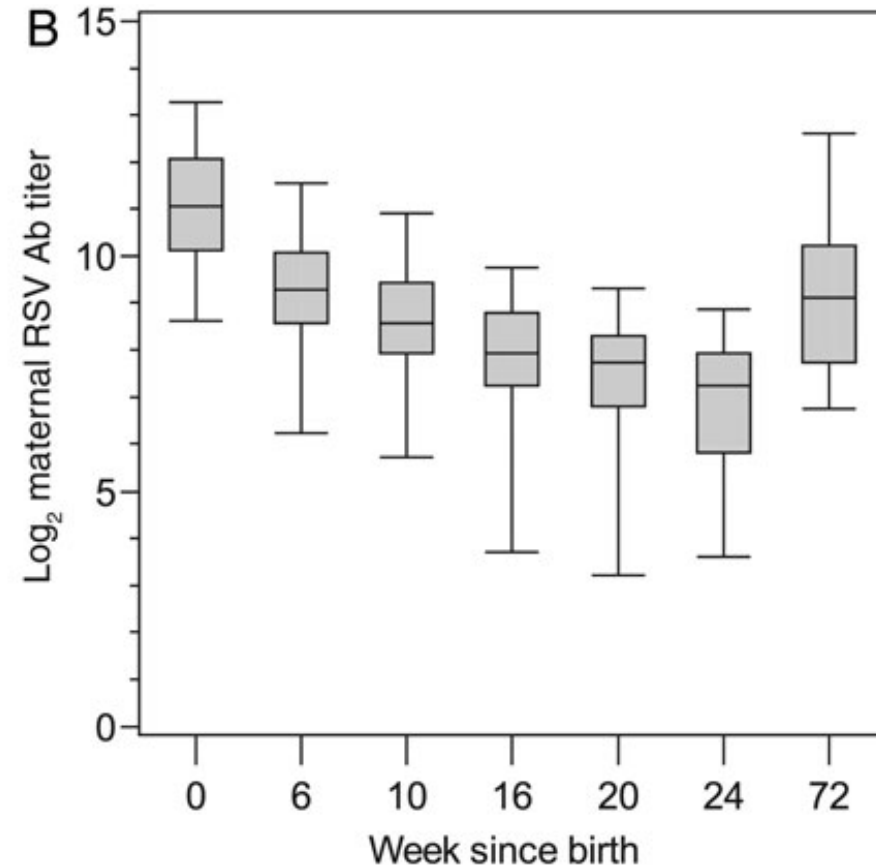
Neutralizing potency



Pre-fusion F protein



Post-fusion F protein

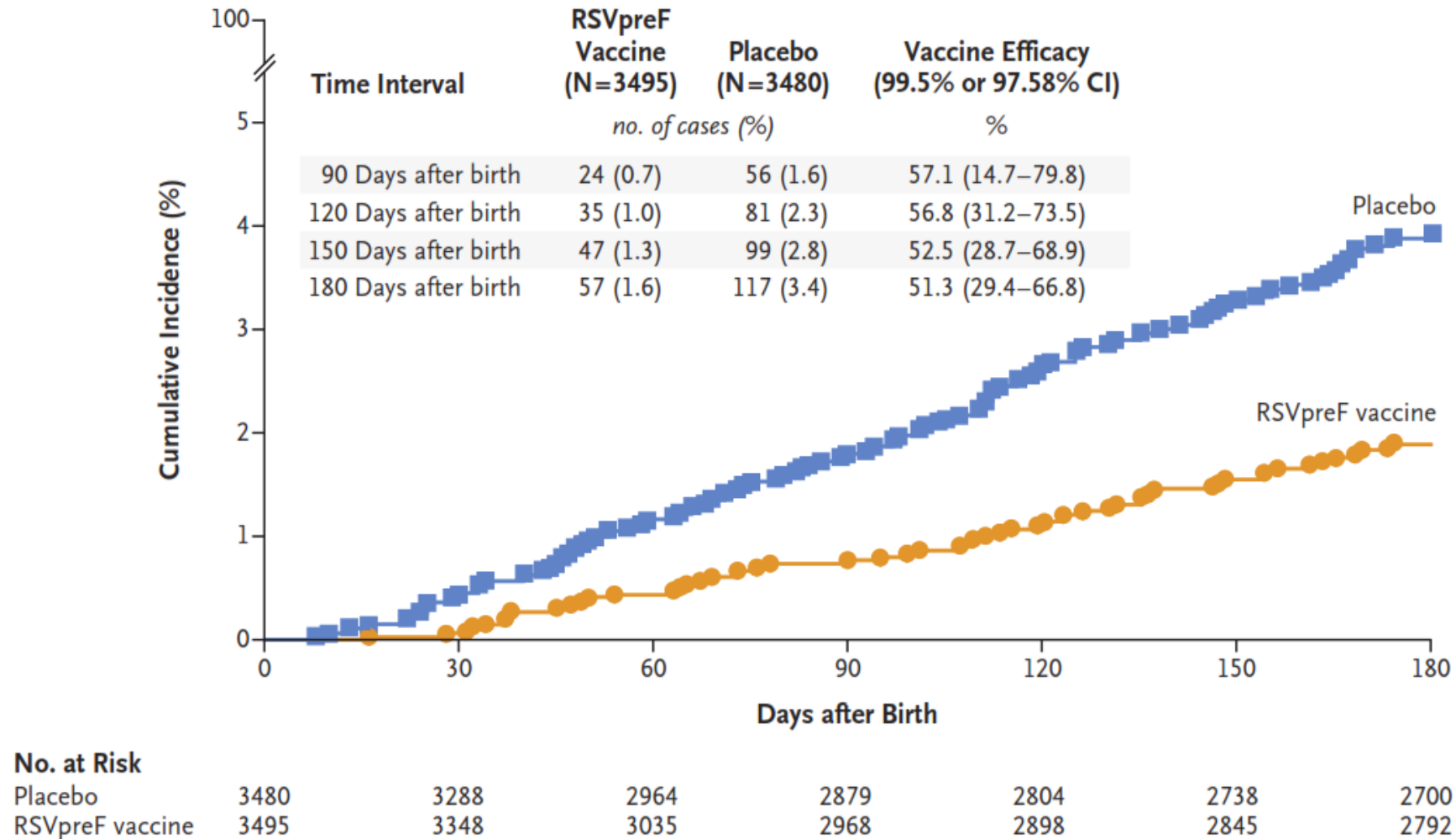


Bivalent vaccine to target RSV A and RSV B subtypes.

Chu et al. J Infect Dis 2014; 210: 1582-9.

# Abrysvo decreases clinic and ED visits

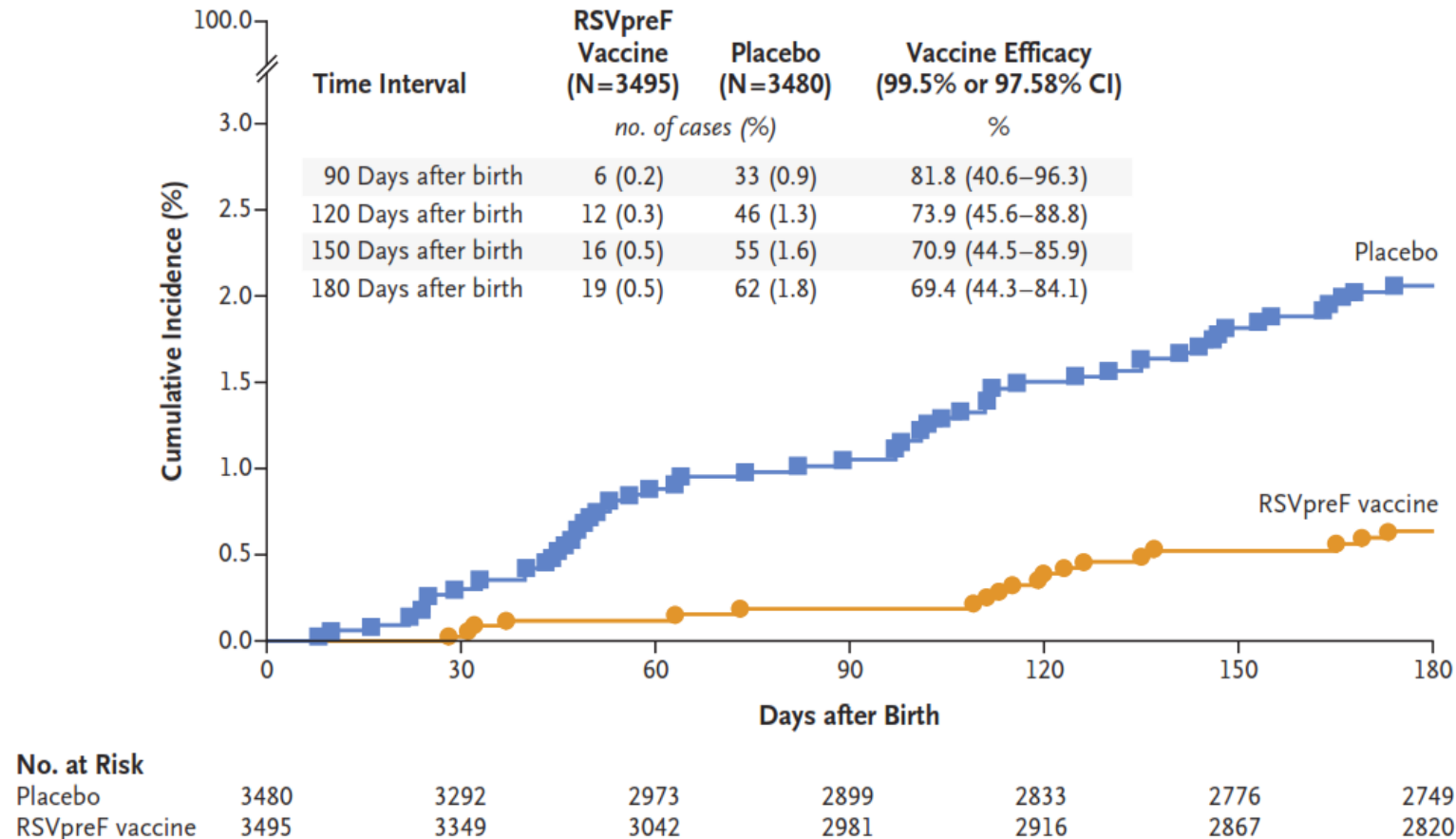
## B Medically Attended RSV-Associated Lower Respiratory Tract Illness



- Number needed to treat = 56

# Abrysvo reduces the risk of severe disease\*

A Medically Attended Severe RSV-Associated Lower Respiratory Tract Illness



- Number needed to treat = 77

\*Severe defined as tachypnea, hypoxia, requiring respiratory support, ICU admission, or unconscious



# Abrysvo safety

- Mild injection site pain (36% vs. 9%), mild redness (5% vs. 0%), swelling (6% vs. 0%), and mild muscle pain (18% vs. 10%) are relatively common
- Preterm birth – smoke or fire?
  - No different in 3,682 patient international phase 3 RCT (5.7% vs. 4.7%)
  - Numerically different in phase 2 trial (6/114 versus 3/116)
  - Arexvy pregnancy trial halted early (N=5,328; 6.8% vs. 5%)
    - Driven by differences in South Africa





# ACIP recommendations (9/22/2023)

- Administer between 32 and 36 weeks gestation to all pregnant women from September through January (may adjust based on local seasonality)

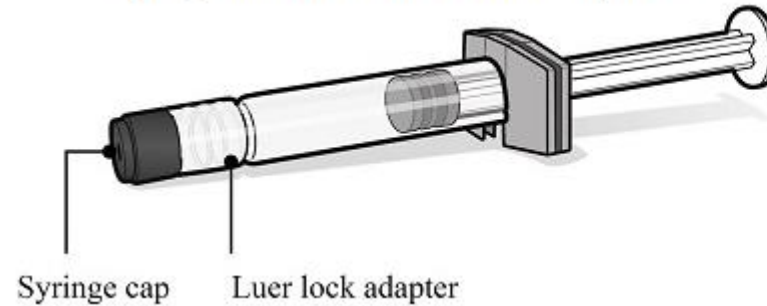
# Package insert specifics

- Follow preparation instructions in kit

Vial of Lyophilized Antigen Component



Syringe of Sterile Water Diluent Component



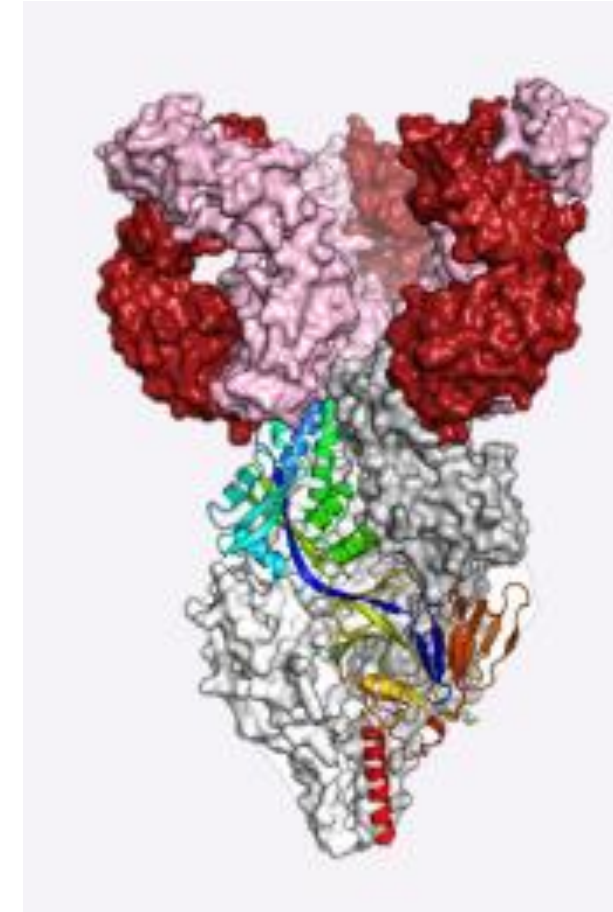
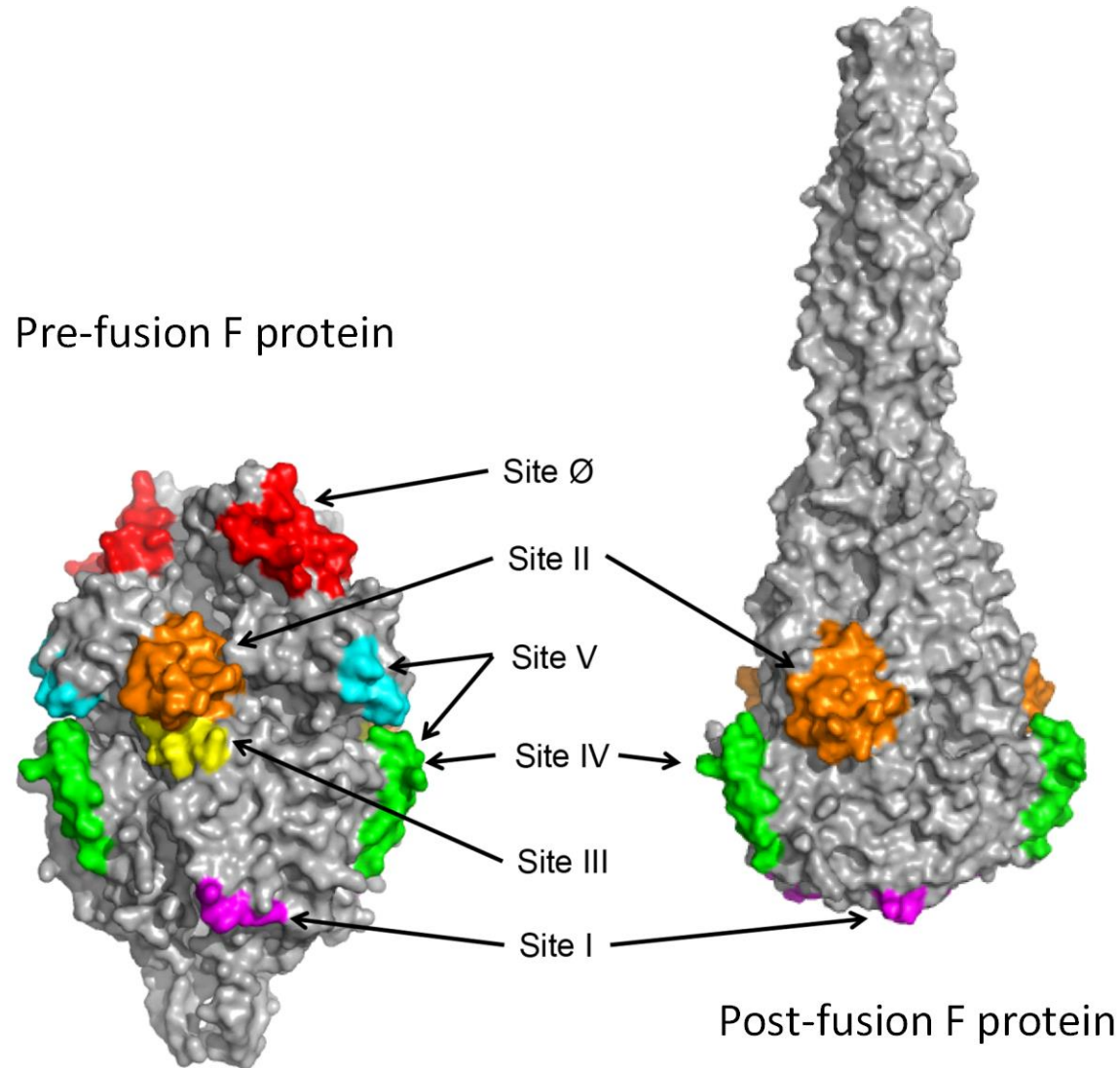
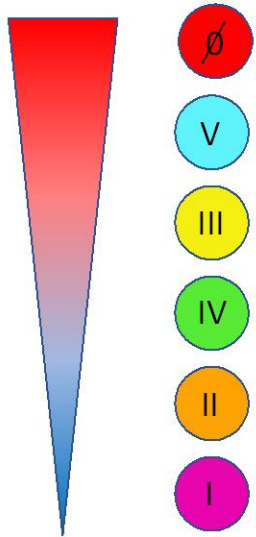
Vial Adapter



- Use within 4 hours of reconstitution
- Flat dose for all – 120 mcg = 0.5 mL
- Preservative free
  - Polysorbate 80 (0.08 mg per 0.5 mL) as an emulsifier
    - 72 mg/kg/day associated with toxicity in preterm neonates
    - Conservative threshold for exposure proposed as 1.4 mg/day in neonates

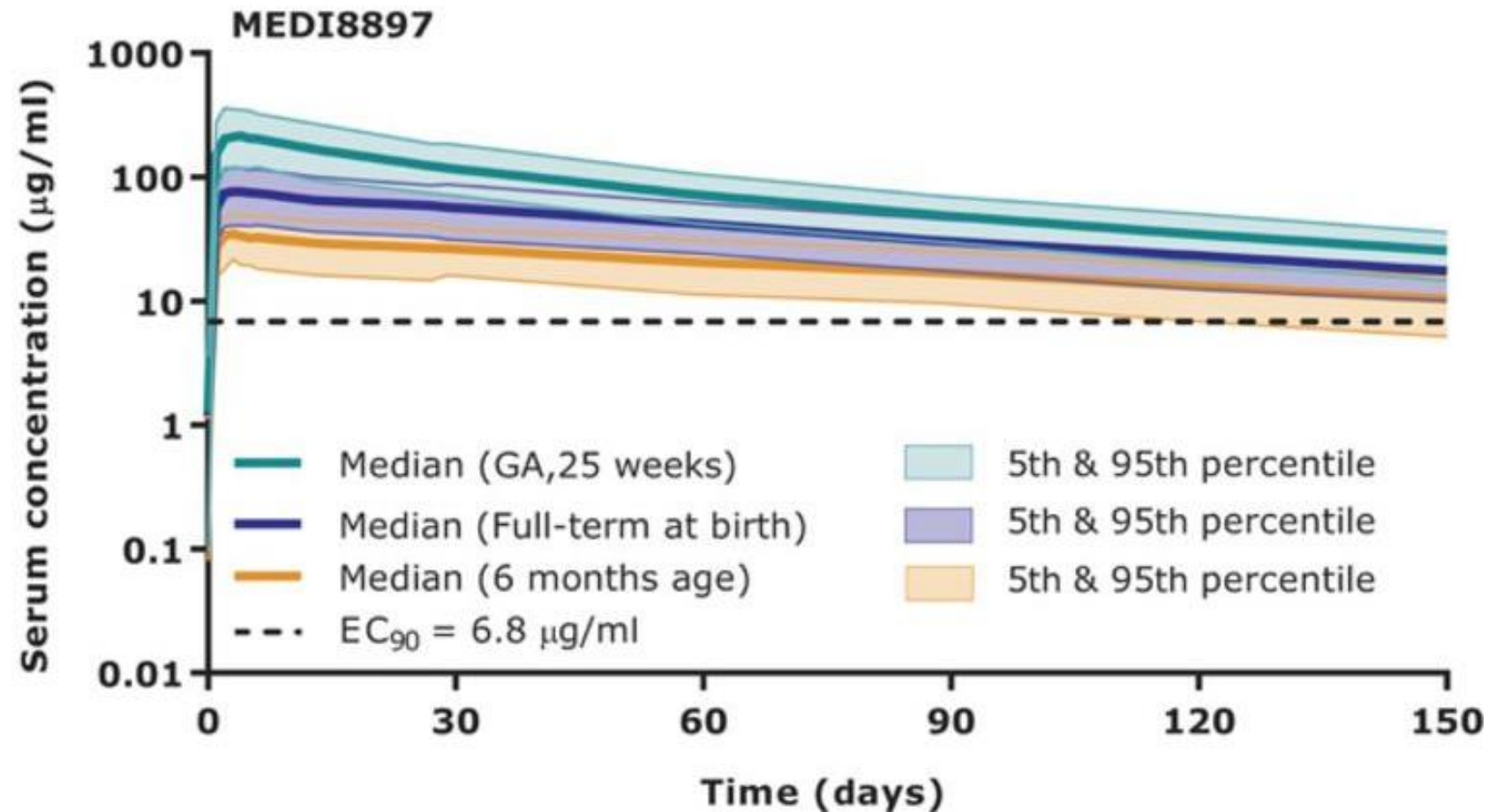
# Nirsevimab (FDA approved 7/17/2023)

Neutralizing potency



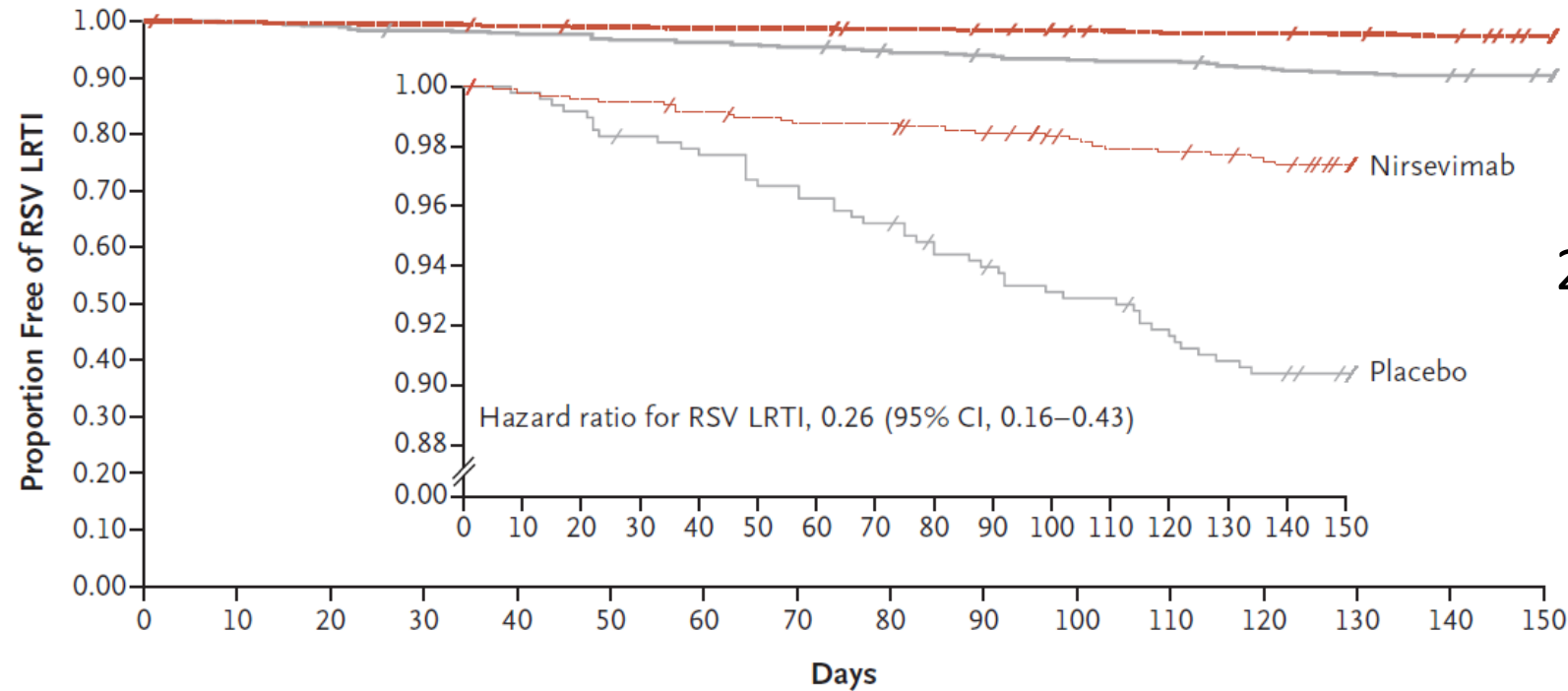
# Nirsevimab

- Modified Fc region to extend half-life
  - M252Y/S254T/T256E enhances binding in the acidic environment of the neonatal lysosome, increasing recycling and reducing degradation in the serum



# Nirsevimab decreases clinic and ED visits

A Time to First Medically Attended RSV Lower Respiratory Tract Infection



No. at Risk

Nirsevimab	969	962	960	959	955	952	950	950	946	943	937	932	931	929	925	920
Placebo	484	480	477	472	469	464	462	458	451	448	444	443	436	432	429	427

- NNT to prevent one inpatient or outpatient visit = 14 - 24

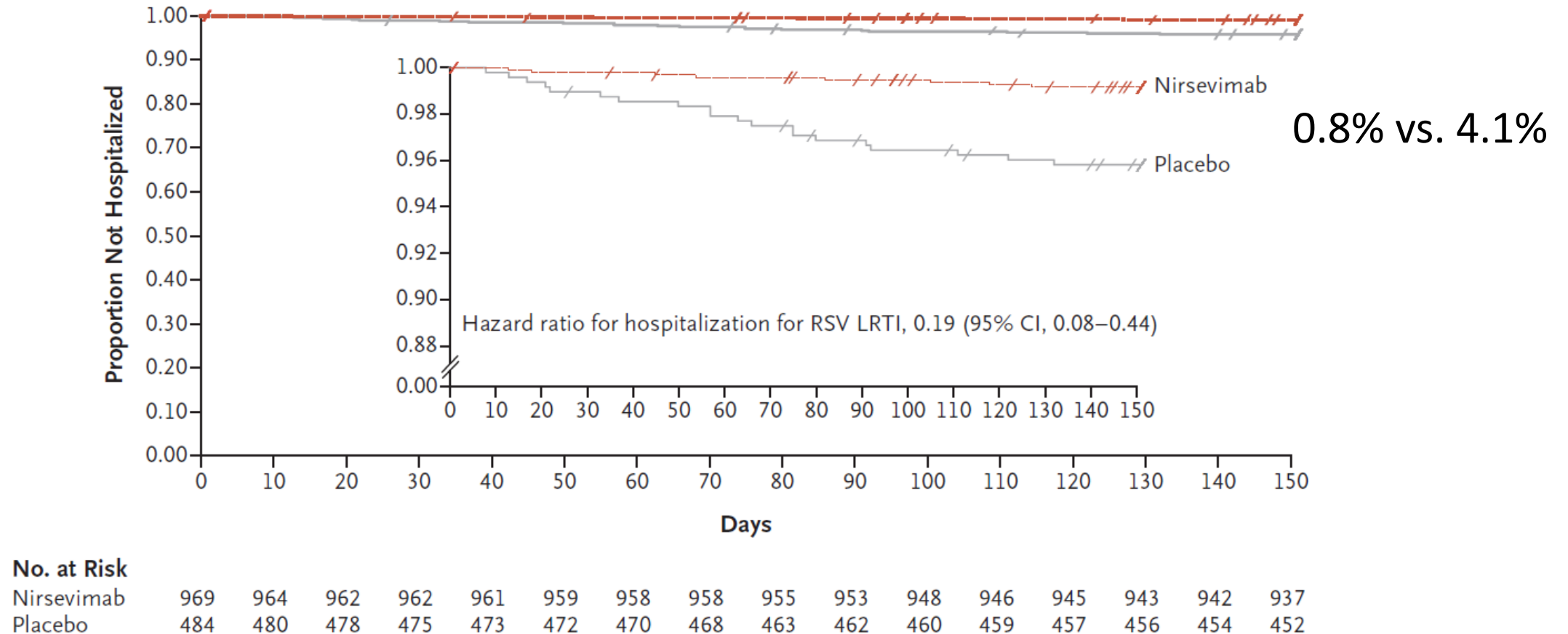
Griffin et al. N Engl J Med 2020; 383: 415-25.

Hammitt et al. N Engl J Med 2022; 386: 837-46.

Muller et al. N Engl J Med 2023; 388: 1533-34.

# Nirsevimab decreases hospitalizations

**B** Time to First Hospitalization for RSV Lower Respiratory Tract Infection



- NNT to prevent one hospitalization = 33 - 63

Griffin et al. N Engl J Med 2020; 383: 415-25.  
Hammit et al. N Engl J Med 2022; 386: 837-46.  
Muller et al. N Engl J Med 2023; 388: 1533-34.

# Nirsevimab safety

**Table 2      Adverse Reactions Reported at an Incidence Higher Than Placebo in the Safety Population\* (Trials 03 and 04)**

<b>Adverse Reaction</b>	<b>BEYFORTUS N=2,570 %</b>	<b>Placebo N=1,284 %</b>
Rash <sup>†</sup> (occurring within 14 days post-dose)	0.9	0.6
Injection site reaction <sup>†</sup> (occurring within 7 days post-dose)	0.3	0

Number needed to harm = 333

Griffin et al. N Engl J Med 2020; 383: 415-25.  
Hammitt et al. N Engl J Med 2022; 386: 837-46.  
Muller et al. N Engl J Med 2023; 388: 1533-34.



# ACIP recommendation (8/3/2023)

- Born February to September 2023 → give nirsevimab October 1<sup>st</sup>
- Born October 2023 to March 2024 → give nirsevimab in the first week of life or, if hospitalized after birth, shortly before or promptly after discharge
  - May adjust start time based on local epidemiology
- 2<sup>nd</sup> season → 8-19 months old with chronic lung disease of prematurity who required medical support (chronic corticosteroid therapy, diuretic therapy, or supplemental oxygen) any time during the 6-month period before the start of the second RSV season
  - Safe in second season (NEJM 2022; 386: 892-894); waiting on outcome data
- Included in childhood immunization schedule and Vaccines for Children program

Proposed Jones. ACIP Meeting Feb 2023.

Unanimously adopted Jones. ACIP Meeting August 2023.

Jones et al. MMWR 2023; 72: 920-925.

# Package insert specifics

- Preservative free
  - Polysorbate 80 (0.1 mg per 0.5 mL) as an emulsifier
    - 72 mg/kg/day associated with toxicity in preterm neonates
    - Conservative threshold for exposure proposed as 1.4 mg/day in neonates
- Flat dosing in commercial sizes ( $< 5$  kg = 50 mg;  $\geq 5$  kg = 100 mg; second season = 2 x 100 mg)
- Different injection site from vaccines (same leg as HBIG, if required)

# Nirsevimab guidance considering Abrysvo

- Give nirsevimab if...
  - No Abrysvo
  - Abrysvo < 14 days prior to birth
  - Maternal immunocompromise or HIV
  - Infant cardiopulmonary bypass
  - Infant significant CHD
  - Infant ICU admission and home oxygen

# Equity

- 39% of Missouri infants miss at least one well-child visit in the first year of life. 12% of Missouri infants have a gap of at least one year in well child visits. 27% of Missouri infants have not received all recommended immunizations by age 2.
- Neonates are 13% less likely to receive immunizations outpatient compared to inpatient
  - NNH = 12
- African American infants 1% less likely to complete hepatitis B series, but 8% less likely to complete childhood immunization series
  - NNH = 20
- African American infants 36% more likely to be hospitalized for RSV

Nation Survey of Children's Health, US DHHS HRSA MCHB  
Gomez et al. J Infect Dis 2022; 226: S293-99.  
<https://stacks.cdc.gov/view/cdc/59414>  
Rha et al. Pediatrics 2020; 146: e20193611.

# Abrysvo logistics

- Cost - \$295
  - Contract prices as low as \$252
- Inpatient
  - DRG modification?
- Outpatient
  - Covered by VFC and Medicaid; waiting for policy updates from privates
- Requires refrigeration prior to reconstitution
- Required to provide VIS, but not yet updated for pregnancy
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/rsv.pdf>

# Nirsevimab Logistics

- Cost - \$495
  - Contract prices as low as \$445
- Inpatient
  - VFC enrollment?, DRG modification?
- Outpatient
  - Covered by VFC; covered by UHC, Aetna, Anthem, Tricare.
- Storage – requires refrigeration
- Consent – required in Missouri; IIS now available
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/rsv/downloads/Immunization-Information-Statement.pdf>

# Questions

mcphersonc@wustl.edu



# Links to additional resources

- Digital and link to print – 2023 Respiratory Virus Infection Vaccine Recommendations for Hospitals and Health Care Providers: <https://web.mhanet.com/media-library/2023-rvi-vaccine-recommendations-for-hospitals-and-health-care-providers/>
  - Digital and link to print – 2023 Respiratory Virus Infection Vaccine Recommendations for the Public: <https://web.mhanet.com/media-library/2023-rvi-vaccine-recommendations-for-the-public/>
  - Other helpful links:
    - CDC Talking to Patients About Vaccine Safety: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/hcproviders/talkingtopatients.html>
    - CDC Recommendations for RSV Immunizations: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/rsv/index.html>
- AAP: Nirsevimab Implementation Guide:  
[https://downloads.aap.org/AAP/PDF/Nirsevimab\\_Implementation\\_Guide\\_FINAL.pdf](https://downloads.aap.org/AAP/PDF/Nirsevimab_Implementation_Guide_FINAL.pdf)
- IIS: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/rsv/immunization-information-statement.html>