



September 10, 2026

Dear Healthcare Provider,

As respiratory season approaches, the Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH) remains committed to protecting the health of all people in our commonwealth and is sharing the following immunization updates and guidance. KDPH's recommendations reflect guidance from trusted medical and professional organizations, including the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) and American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists (ACOG). Providers can use the KDPH [Respiratory Disease Dashboard](#) to view current and historical Kentucky respiratory activity in their area or across the state.

COVID-19:

- The 2026–2027 COVID-19 vaccine has been updated for currently circulating strains and is recommended for:
 - All children 6 to 23 months of age.
 - All individuals 2 to 64 years of age at [increased risk for severe](#) COVID-19, including pregnant or lactating women.
 - Individuals 2 to 64 years of age who desire additional protection from COVID-19, based on considerations of the risks and benefits of vaccination.
 - All adults 65 years of age and older. Adults 65 years of age and older should receive a second dose approximately 6 months after the first dose.
- Products and dosing vary by age and vaccination history; follow current age-appropriate dosing guidance from the AAP's [COVID Vaccine Dosing Quick Reference.pdf](#)

Influenza:

- Annual vaccination is recommended for all persons 6 months of age and older.
- Children 6 months through 8 years of age who are receiving influenza vaccine for the first time, or who have received only 1 previous dose or who have an unknown vaccination history should receive 2 doses at least 4 weeks apart.
- Adults 65 years of age and older should preferentially receive a high-dose, inactivated, recombinant or adjuvanted inactivated influenza vaccine. If one is not available, another age-appropriate influenza vaccine should be administered.
- All influenza vaccines available for the 2026–2027 season are trivalent. Available options include standard-dose inactivated, cell culture-based, recombinant, live attenuated intranasal, high-dose and adjuvanted influenza vaccines. [Product eligibility](#) varies by age and health status.

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Our Vision: Healthier People, Healthier Communities.

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Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV):

- Immunization is recommended for:
 - Infants younger than 8 months of age born during or entering their first RSV season, **October 1 through March 31**, whose mother did not receive RSV vaccine during pregnancy with that infant, maternal vaccination status is unknown, or who were born within 14 days of maternal vaccination. Optimal timing for administration is within the first week of life during the RSV season, including in hospital settings. [AAP Immunization FAQs](#)
 - Certain high-risk children 8 to 19 months of age entering their second RSV season based on the [AAP's updated high-risk criteria](#). Eligible children may receive nirsevimab regardless of maternal RSV vaccination status. Nirsevimab is the only approved product for children older than 8 months of age.
 - Pregnant women at 32 through 36 weeks' gestation administered **September 1 through March 1** [based on NEW ACOG 2026 guidelines](#). ABRYSVO by Pfizer is the only RSV vaccine approved for use during pregnancy.
 - Adults 50 to 74 years of age who are at [increased risk for severe](#) RSV disease.
 - Adults 75 years of age and older.
- Nirsevimab (Beyfortus) and clesrovimab (Enflonsia) are available for eligible infants younger than 8 months.
- Pregnant women who received maternal RSV vaccine during a previous pregnancy should not receive another dose during a subsequent pregnancy; their infant should receive an RSV monoclonal antibody.
- Eligible adults should receive a single dose of RSV vaccine, optimally before or during RSV season. Annual revaccination is not currently recommended.
- Arexvy, mResvia and Abrysvo are FDA-approved for adults 18 to 49 years of age who are at increased risk for RSV lower respiratory tract disease. CDC has not yet issued an RSV vaccination recommendation for adults younger than 50 years of age.

Vaccine Ordering and the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program

COVID-19: KDPH expects the VFC program to have COVID-19 vaccines available for order soon for enrolled providers. An update announcement will be shared with all enrolled providers once ordering is available. The updated vaccines are monovalent and target the JN.1-lineage XFG variant. All brands of the 2026-2027 COVID-19 vaccines are available now to order through private purchase. Available products include Moderna's SPIKEVAX and MNEXSPIKE, Pfizer's COMIRNATY and Sanofi's NUVAXOVID.

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Influenza: VFC providers who prebooked influenza doses are receiving their requested amounts in stages starting September 8, 2026. Once the prebooked orders have been fulfilled, ordering will be made available for additional amounts as needed.

RSV: The VFC program has nirsevimab (Beyfortus) RSV monoclonal antibody available for order now in both 50mg and 100mg presentations. Clesrovimab (Enflonsia) is also available for ordering as of August 1, 2026, and is supplied as a single 105 mg dose for infants regardless of weight. The VFC program has Pfizer's Abrysvo available for maternal administration for those eligible 18 years of age and younger. Pfizer's Abrysvo, GSK's Arexvy and Moderna's mResvia are available for order through the 317 Adult Vaccine Program for enrolled providers.

Pharmacies are a crucial point of access for immunizations in Kentucky. COVID-19, RSV and influenza vaccinations are available now in many commercial pharmacies. Age eligibility and product availability may vary by pharmacy location.

For additional information and current immunization recommendations, KDPH encourages healthcare providers to consult the following professional organizations:

- [American Academy of Pediatrics immunization recommendations and schedule](#)
- [American Academy of Family Physicians immunization schedules for children and adults](#)
- [American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists maternal immunization schedule](#)
- [AMA | Respiratory Virus Immunization Recommendations](#)

We appreciate your continued commitment to immunization and public health. KDPH will continue to review current guidance and provide additional updates as recommendations evolve.

Thank you for your partnership.

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