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GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor

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TO: California birthing and pediatric hospital managers

FROM: Robert Schechter, M.D., Chief *RSK*
Center for Infectious Diseases
Division of Communicable Disease Control, Immunization Branch

SUBJECT: Nirsevimab (Beyfortus™) available at no cost to protect eligible infants from returning to hospital with RSV infection – VFC enrollment is open

Dear Colleagues,

The California Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program will soon make available federally-purchased nirsevimab at no cost to enrolled sites, including birth or neonatal care hospitals. California hospitals that serve infants eligible for VFC vaccines, including who are uninsured or covered by Medi-Cal, are encouraged to enroll in the VFC Program.

Nirsevimab is a long-acting monoclonal antibody that prevents severe disease from respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) in infants, which has caused up to 80,000 hospitalizations and 300 deaths per year. In its pivotal clinical trials, nirsevimab has been highly effective in preventing hospitalization and admission for intensive care for RSV infection. Consequently, nirsevimab is now recommended in the US shortly after birth to all infants born between October and March, or later during infancy to those born in the Spring or Summer. You can help protect infants from returning to the hospital with severe RSV infections by administering nirsevimab.

As nirsevimab has a list price of \$495 per infant dose, participation in the VFC Program can save your hospital substantial costs. To learn more about enrolling in the VFC program, please visit www.eziz.org and join us by [registering here](#) for a **special one hour session for birthing and other pediatric hospitals on October 16, 2023, from 12PM – 1PM**. You may also call the California VFC Program Customer Service Center at (877) 243-883 for enrollment support.

Thank you for your efforts to protect the health of young infants.

Resources

- [Enrollment Information and Benefits of Joining the VFC Program](#)
- [Nirsevimab Guidance \(CDC\)](#)
- [RSV Immunization FAQs for Providers](#)
- [Additional RSV Resources for Providers and Patients](#)

