



What is RSV?

- A virus that causes bronchiolitis, an infection of the small airways of the lungs. It is the most common cause of bronchiolitis and pneumonia in children under the age of 1, with almost all children having been infected by age 1.

What are symptoms that occur?

- Cough
- Sneezing
- Runny nose
- Fever
- Loss of appetite

How is it spread?

- Person-to-person by droplets from the nose, throat and mouth through coughing, sneezing, and speaking
- Direct contact with nasal or oral secretions through kissing the face of a child
- Some may become infected by touching an object with the virus then touching their mouth or nose

How is it diagnosed and treated?

- Primary care provider and laboratory testing
- Ribavirin may be used in the hospital to treat severe infection

Should the sick individual be isolated?

- No.

When can the individual return to the general population?

- Individual may return when they are symptom-free and feel well

How can RSV be prevented?

- Wash hands often with soap and water
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing
- Wash hard surfaces and toys with soap and water or disinfectant
- Avoid sharing items contaminated with saliva, such as cups, eating utensils, and pacifiers

If I have any other questions, whom can I contact?

- Call the Genesee County Health Department, 257-1017