

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Ron DeSantis
Governor

Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD
State Surgeon General

Vision: To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

November 2, 2022

Dear Colleague:

There have been increases in the circulation of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). RSV is a common respiratory virus that usually causes mild, cold-like symptoms. Infants, young children, and older adults, especially those with certain underlying health conditions, including prematurity, are at higher risk for severe illness from RSV.

During typical seasons, RSV circulation increases in the fall months, peaking between November and January. Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020, RSV circulation patterns have been disrupted across the United States, including in Florida. It is too soon to predict when typical seasonal patterns in Florida will return.

Florida's RSV season is longer than the rest of the nation and has distinct regional patterns. In the southern part of the state, there is year-round circulation of RSV. Please visit [FloridaHealth.gov/RSV](https://www.floridahealth.gov/RSV) for additional information.

Due to the increased circulation and the unique activity of RSV in Florida overall, contact your county health department ([FloridaHealth.gov/CHDEpiContact](https://www.floridahealth.gov/CHDEpiContact)) if:

- You suspect an outbreak of RSV or influenza-like illness (outbreaks are defined as two or more ill individuals in a defined setting such as a day care or school).
- You see an unusually severe presentation of RSV.
- You have questions about the epidemiology of other respiratory diseases, including influenza and COVID-19.

Thank you for your important contribution to protecting Floridians from RSV.

Sincerely,

Andréa Sciberras, DO, AAHIVS, FACOI, FACP,
Medical Director,
Division of Disease Control and Health Protection