

Memorandum

To:	QCH Medical, Nursing and Pharmacy Staff
Copies to:	IMPS, QSIS
From:	Queensland Specialist Immunisation Service (QSIS)
Contact no.:	3068 5600
Subject:	2024 Queensland Paediatric Respiratory Syncytial Virus Prevention Program

The Queensland Paediatric Respiratory Syncytial Virus Prevention (QPRSVP) Program will provide free Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) immunisation to eligible infants and young children. The QPRSVP Program will use Nirsevimab (brand name Beyfortus®). Nirsevimab is a long-acting monoclonal antibody that provides infants and young children protection against RSV for at least 5 months and has shown to be up to 80 per cent effective in decreasing infant hospitalisations related to RSV.¹

The program commences:

- 15 April 2024 in Queensland birthing hospitals
- 18 April 2024 in Queensland Children's Hospital (QCH)

Nirsevimab replaces Palivizumab therapy for eligible patients. Nirsevimab is free to all eligible patients. There will be no stock available for private purchase for non-eligible patients.

Program Information

[Queensland Paediatric Respiratory Syncytial Virus Prevention Program | Queensland Health](#)

Eligibility criteria

available via [Statewide Clinical Guidance](#).

Consent form and information for parents and carers

The [Respiratory Syncytial Virus \(RSV\) Nirsevimab Immunisation Consent form](#) is available for immunisation providers to print and use when consenting parents or legal guardians for Nirsevimab administration.

The [RSV Immunisation Nirsevimab - Information for parents and carers](#) fact sheet provides information for parents and carers to make an informed decision and consent for Nirsevimab administration.

How to access Nirsevimab at QCH				
	Inpatient	Outpatient (Specialist clinic - Cardiac, Resp etc)	Outpatient-QSIS*	Day of Discharge-QSIS Immunisation Centre (2G)**
Who prescribes:	Treating Clinician – order on iEMR.	Treating Clinician or RN as per Standing Order***	IPN	IPN
Supply:	Pharmacy to supply on day of administration	Pharmacy to supply on day of administration	QSIS	QSIS
Who can administer:	As per medication administration procedure	RN can administer as per Standing Order*** or medication administration procedure	IPN	IPN

*Immunisation Centre is open Mon-Fri 8am-4pm (closed on public holidays and weekends).

**Families can present directly to the centre after discharge, no appointment necessary.



***Please note a QCH Standing Order for nurse initiation/administration is awaiting approval – expected Monday 22 April. Until this is approved, all Nirsevimab is to be administered via a medical order.

All Nirsevimab given in QCH will be documented on the Australian Immunisation Register following existing processes for vaccines.

Reference:

1. [Queensland Paediatric Respiratory Syncytial Virus Prevention Program | Queensland Health](#)