CDC: RSV Vaccine Recommended for Older People

Adults aged 60 years or older may now receive a single dose of a respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine after talking with their physician about the decision, according to recommendations by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC’s) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices and backed by former Director Rochelle P. Walensky, MD, MPH.

The US Food and Drug Administration approved the vaccine, which is manufactured by GSK and Pfizer and marketed as Arexvy, for older adults in May. In addition to older adults, people who are at the highest risk for severe disease include adults with chronic heart or lung disease, a compromised immune system, and those who live in nursing or long-term care facilities.

The vaccines will likely be available starting in the fall and “provide an opportunity to help protect older adults against severe RSV illness at a time when multiple respiratory infections are likely to circulate,” the CDC said in a statement. – Emily Harris

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Note: Source references are available through embedded hyperlinks in the article text online.