

## Start of the 2024-2025 Respiratory Virus Season Call Q+A

- Is Maine doing wastewater sampling?
  - There are some wastewater treatment facilities in Maine conducting influenza testing. This activity has no affiliation with Maine DHHS. The dashboard is available here: <https://data.wastewaterscan.org/tracker>
  - This is also a helpful link (wastewater data near the bottom of the page): <https://www.cdc.gov/bird-flu/h5-monitoring>
- Any nursing homes, residential care or assisted housing who need assistance with setting up vaccine clinics feel free to reach out to Maine Health Care Association, email: [mcotland@mehca.org](mailto:mcotland@mehca.org)
- Is it recommended for infants to receive the RSV vaccine if their mother was vaccinated during pregnancy?
  - No, the baby is considered protected if the mother received the vaccine during 32-36 weeks ([Immunizations to Protect Infants | RSV | CDC](#))
- Regarding the 2,500 available bridge vaccines, would it be appropriate to advise any community-based organizations/ethnic community-based organizations who might be interested in securing vaccine supply to contact MIP with their request?
  - Any healthcare facility who serves an adult population over 19 years, who may be under and uninsured would be encouraged to enroll in our program to be able to access this vaccine for their patients, please have them email us: [MEAdultVaccine@maine.gov](mailto:MEAdultVaccine@maine.gov)
  - For more information: [www.ImmunizeME.org](http://www.ImmunizeME.org): [317 Adult Vaccine Providers](#)
- I'm assuming community organizations that are not healthcare facilities, but that are interested in providing vaccine to their communities, would need to partner with an enrolled healthcare facility in order to try to access vaccine?
  - Yes. Vaccines need to be administered by health care professionals at a health care facility.
- Is Abrysvo only recommended for the pregnant woman? Not for any other family members around an infant (like pertussis cocooning)?
  - Adults 60 years and older may also receive the Abrysvo vaccine. Adults 60+ can receive any one of the licensed RSV vaccines (Arexvy, Abrysvo, and mResvia), however, pregnant women can only receive the Abrysvo vaccine.
- If using rapid tests for Flu and or RSV should a confirmatory test be done as a PCR for a positive?
  - In general it isn't required to run a confirmatory PCR unless it is needed for clinical purposes.
- If not using the MIP, where do we direct uninsured staff to acquire Covid 19 vaccine?
  - Eligible adults may receive the COVID-19 vaccine at the locations listed here: [Adult COVID-19 Vaccine | Immunization | MeCDC | Maine DHHS](#)
  - Providers interested in enrolling with MIP can reach the program by email at [MEAdultVaccine@maine.gov](mailto:MEAdultVaccine@maine.gov)
- Any idea when home COVID tests will be available on [covidtests.gov](https://covidtests.gov)?
  - The website is currently active and is accepting /shipping orders.