

Update on Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Prevention

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Dr. Na-Koshie Lamptey, Deputy Medical Officer of Health
& Dr. Vinita Dubey, Associate Medical Officer of Health

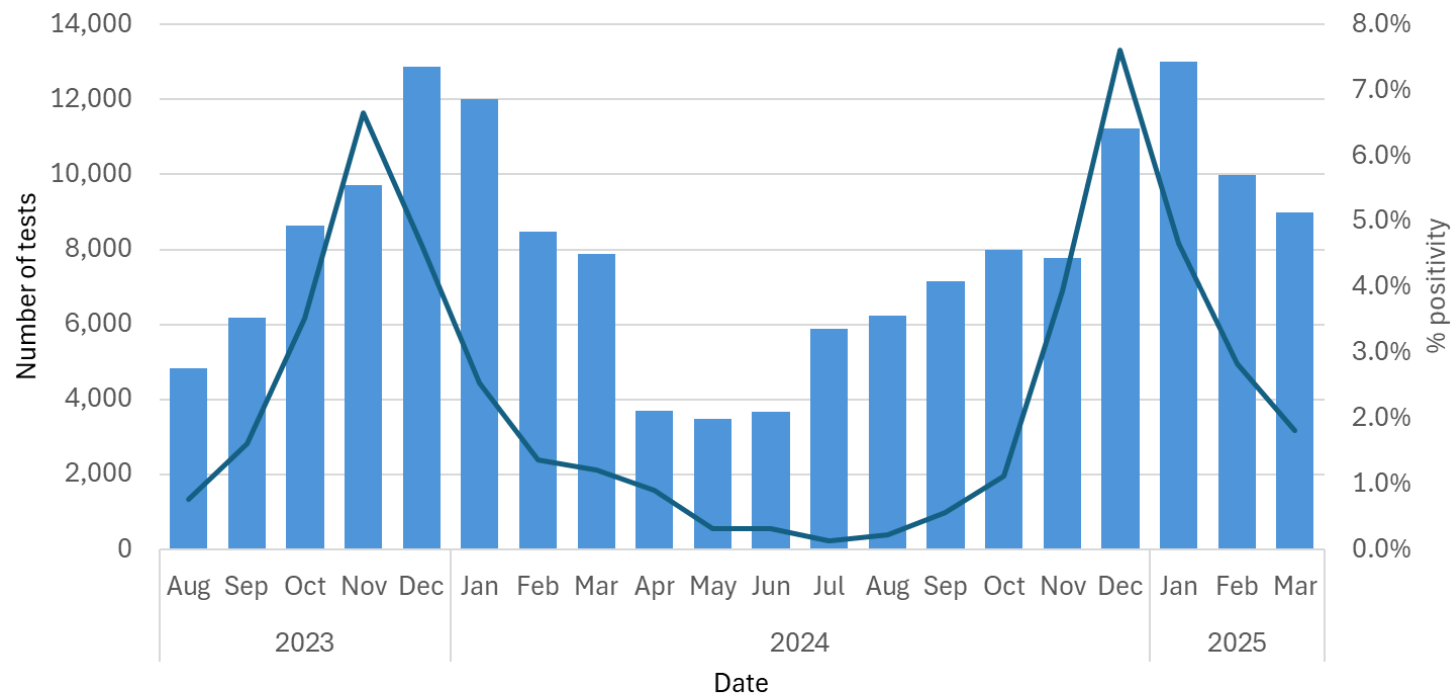


Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)

- Respiratory virus that infects the nose, throat, and lungs
- Like influenza (flu) and the virus that causes COVID-19, RSV spreads through respiratory droplets
- Can cause cold-like symptoms; can lead to more serious complications
- RSV has significant illness burden in infants and older adults

Like influenza, most RSV illness occurs in fall/winter

Daily tests and percent positivity trends increase in fall/winter months



*Note 1: 2024-2025 is a partial year (Aug 25, 2025 – April 2, 2025)

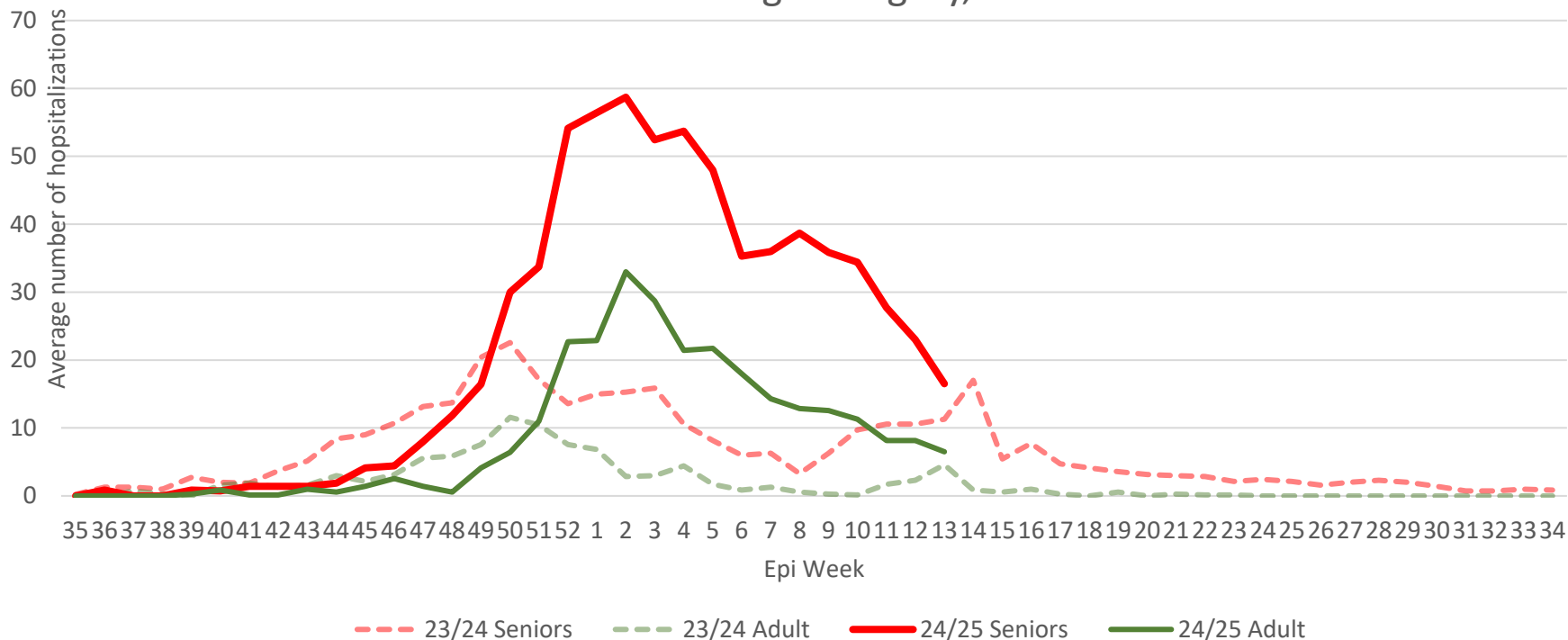
*Note 2: Data are available from August 2023 onwards

■ Sum of Daily Tests — Average of % positivity

RSV daily test and percent positivity by month and year (August 2023 – April 2025)

Severe 2024-2025 RSV season in Toronto

Average number of RSV hospitalizations by week, 2023/24, 2024/25 season and age category, Toronto.



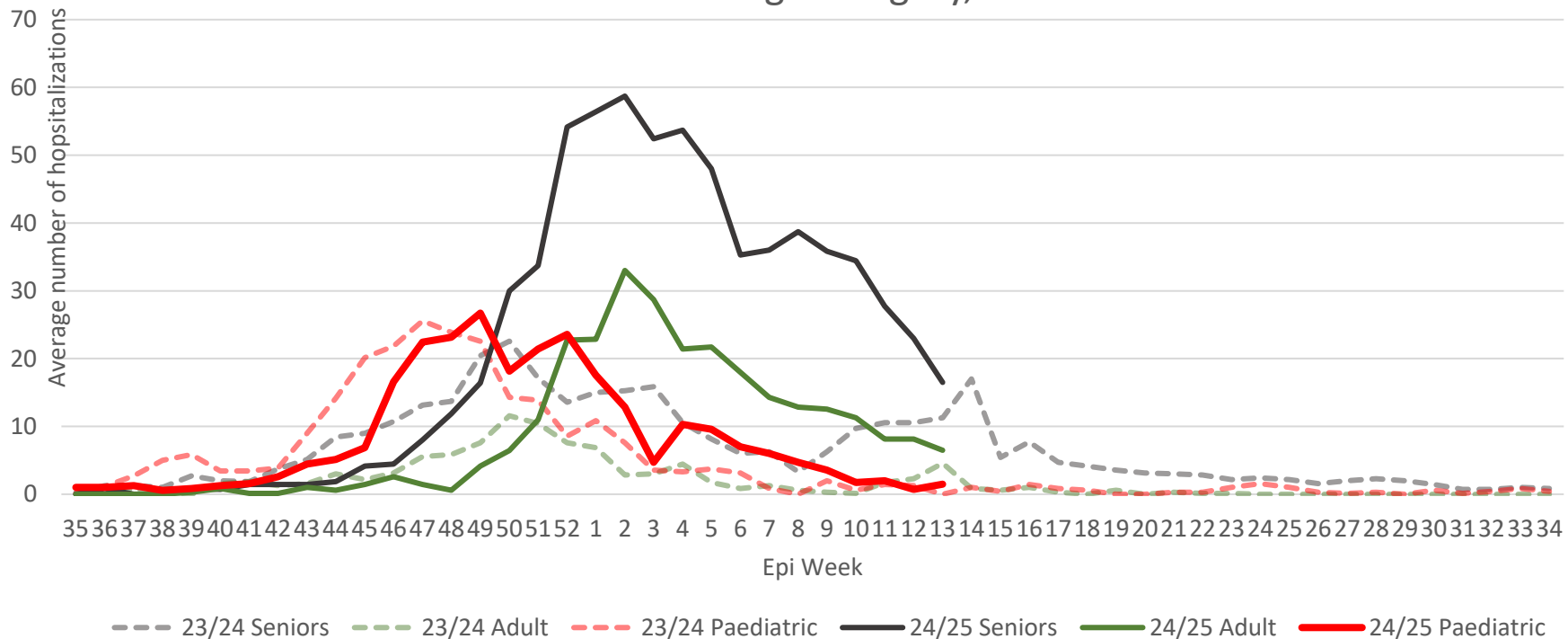
Adult and older adult hospitalizations for RSV were higher than the previous season

Publicly funded RSV vaccines in 2024-2025 were only available for high-risk older adults

Data as of March 31, 2025 at 5pm
 Source: Capacity Planning and Analytics Division (CPAD) visual analytics hub, COVID-19 Regional hospital dashboard
 Note 1: Data are available from November 2023 onwards.
 Note 2: 2024/25 data is missing week 35 and is a partial year (Sep 1, 2025 – Mar 31, 2025)

Pediatric RSV hospitalizations levels in 2024-25 similar to 2023-24 season

Average number of RSV hospitalizations by week, 2023/24, 2024/25 seasons and age category, Toronto.



Despite the observed increase in RSV activity, pediatric RSV hospitalizations were similar to levels in the 2023-24 season. Beyfortus® was introduced in the 2024-25 for infants and high-risk children.

Data as of March 31, 2025 at 5pm
 Source: Capacity Planning and Analytics Division (CPAD) visual analytics hub, COVID-19 Regional hospital dashboard
 Note 1: Data are available from November 2023 onwards.
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TPH mobilizes for RSV protection



Surveillance

- Compile data and analyze trends
- Publish Integrated Respiratory Diseases Dashboard
- Investigate reports of adverse events following immunization



Collaboration

- Share and distribute information
- Promote trusted resources



Health Promotion

- Inform about RSV program expansion
- Provide communications to combat misinformation

TPH's role in the RSV immunization program

Target Group	RSV Prevention Program	TPH Role and Impact (2024-25 season)	TPH Role 2025-26 Season
Older adults	Older adults aged 60 years and older living in congregate settings All adults 75 years* and older	Distributed over 10,000 RSV vaccine doses	Promote, distribute RSV vaccine doses. Webinar to long-term care sector Offer 2 community clinics
Infants and high-risk children	All infants and high-risk children** up to 24 months	Distributed over 37,000 RSV infant doses in first year of program	Promote, collaborate with health partners to increase uptake Offer at TPH clinic
Pregnant people	Pregnant individuals between 32-36 weeks gestation	Distributed vaccine to pregnancy care providers	Promote, collaborate with health partners

*For the 2025-26 season, the Ontario government expanded eligibility for publicly funded RSV vaccines to all adults 75 years of age and older

**For the 2025-26 season, infants under 8 months and born April 1, 2025, or later and high-risk children up to 24 months in their second season are eligible for publicly funded Beyfortus®

Results of infant RSV prevention last season in Ontario

- Between November 2024 to April 2025, almost 70 per cent of newborns received RSV prophylaxis at birth before hospital discharge in Ontario
- This is a significant achievement in the first year of the expanded infant RSV prevention program

TPH's seasonal communications includes RSV. 2025-26 campaign increases promotion to older adults



A large flyer with a photograph of a young woman and an older woman sitting on the floor with a baby between them. The right side of the flyer has a blue background with a white 'FIGHT RSV' shield logo. Below the logo, the text reads: 'Get protection from RSV. RSV immunization is available for high-risk residents. Talk to your health care provider.' At the bottom, it features the Toronto Public Health logo and the website 'toronto.ca/RSV'.

Expanding access to RSV prevention

To reach people at higher risk of severe illness for the 2025-26 season, the City is increasing its services. Examples include:



TPH breastfeeding clinic pilot

Offers RSV prophylaxis to children



Two TPH RSV vaccine clinics

For people 75+ without a healthcare provider



Toronto Paramedic Services

Provides vaccinations to homebound individuals