### Understanding Older Adults Risks and Potential Seriousness of RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV) INFECTION



#### **RSV IN OLDER ADULTS**

RSV is a common, contagious respiratory virus that usually causes mild symptoms but can lead to hospitalization.<sup>1,2</sup>

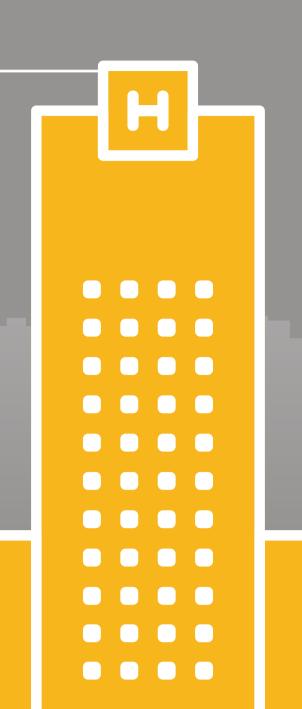
Older adults are more likely to have severe outcomes from RSV because our immune systems typically weaken as we age.<sup>3</sup>

Each year approximately

# 65 AND OLDER

are hospitalized in the US due to RSV and an estimated

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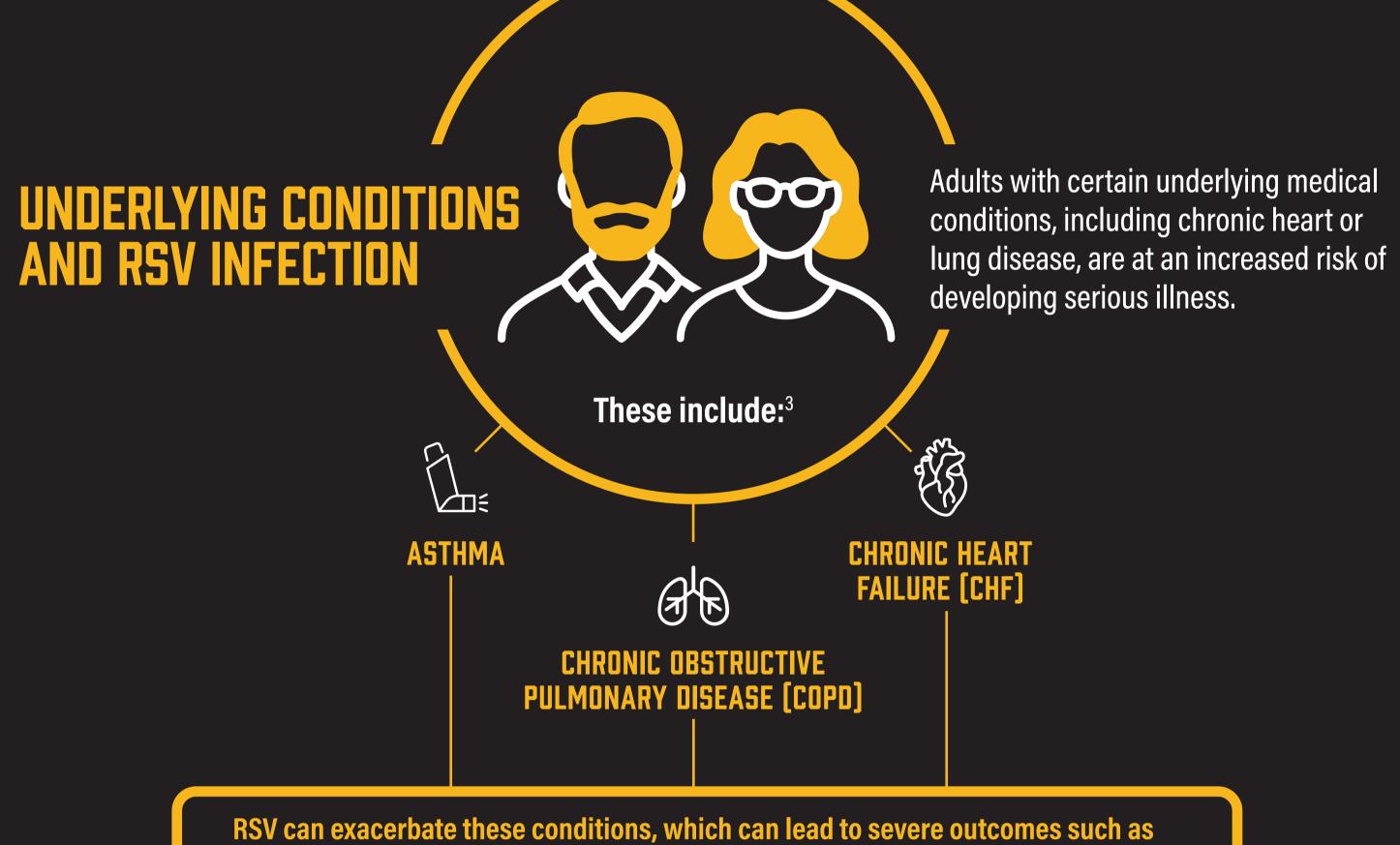


#### THE IMPACT OF RSV

There is no vaccine or specific treatment available for RSV in older adults and severe cases of infection may require hospitalization.<sup>1,2</sup>



some data suggest that there is an increased risk for severe RSV infection that can lead to hospitalization.<sup>5,6</sup>



## PNEUMONIA, HOSPITALIZATION AND DEATH.<sup>2,7</sup>

#### THE SPREAD OF RSV INFECTION



RSV can easily spread when someone is infected **coughs or sneezes**.<sup>1</sup>



Most people are typically contagious for **3-8 days** but people with weakened immune systems can be contagious for as long as **4 weeks**—even after they stop showing **symptoms**.<sup>1</sup>

#### THE PREVENTION OF RSV

#### **Typical ways to prevent RSV infection include:**

Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.



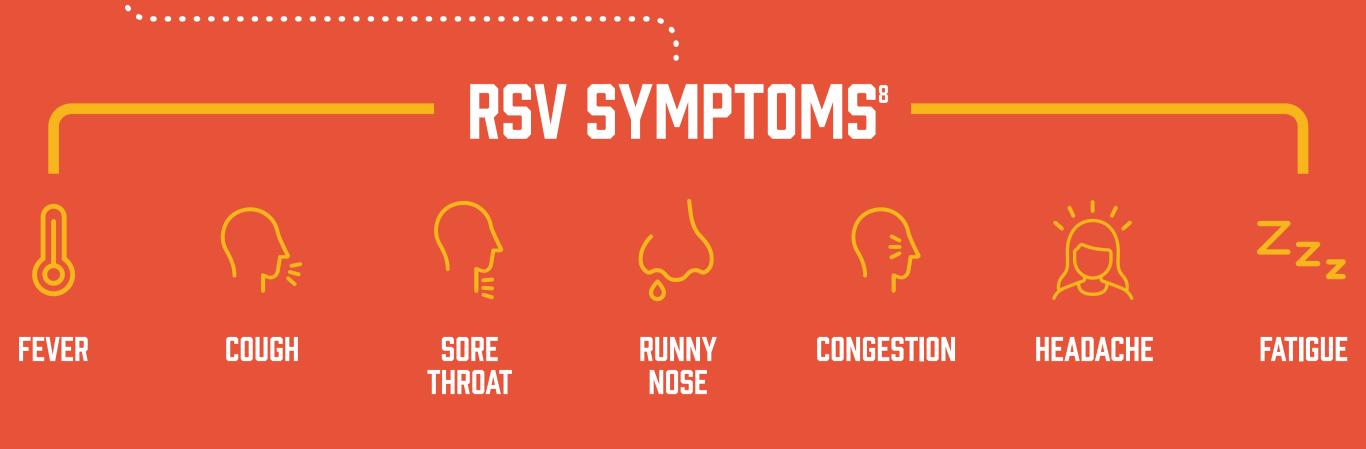
Avoiding touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands, and close contact with people who have cold-like symptoms.

**Cleaning and disinfecting surfaces** that people frequently touch, such as doorknobs.<sup>3</sup>





#### THOSE EXPERIENCING RSV SYMPTOMS SHOULD CALL A HEALTHCARE PROVIDER IMMEDIATELY to discuss risks for severe complications.<sup>8</sup>



## VISIT SIDELINERSV.COM

to learn more about the risks of RSV and how to protect yourself or a loved one.

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