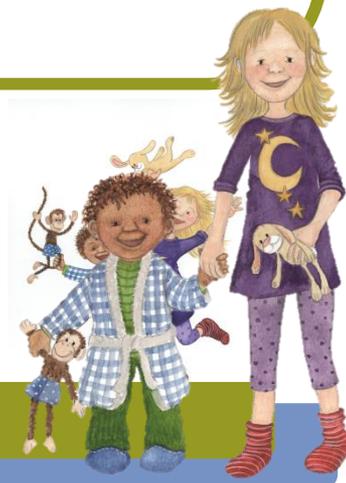


# RSV prevention

## Why, how, who?

Marc Raes, pediatrician, Hasselt

BVN/GBN 08th June, 2022. Radisson Collection Hotel - Brussels



# RSV prevention

## Why, how, who?



# RSV burden in children

## → rationale for prevention

- Disease-related: incidence, morbidity, mortality
- Pressure on:
  - Primary care
  - Hospitalization rates
  - PICU admissions
- Long-term consequences
- Costs: direct and indirect
  - Health care system: visits ( Dr, ER), admissions, medication,...
  - Economy: leave,..



# RSV epidemiology

- RSV infection accounts for **60-80 % of infant bronchiolitis cases** and up to **40 % of cases of paediatric pneumonia**<sup>1</sup>
- **70 % of infants are infected in the 1<sup>st</sup> year and 90 % by 2 years of life** → up to 40 % develop LRTI during the initial episode<sup>2</sup>
- A leading cause of hospitalization in infants during the winter time – **most (up to 75 %) in healthy, term infants**<sup>3-5</sup>
- Hospitalization rate: 1-2/100 infants < 2 mos and 0,5/100 < 2 years<sup>2,3-5</sup>
- Highest risk during the 1<sup>st</sup> RSV season<sup>5</sup>
- High burden of **outpatient** and **ED** visits as well<sup>1,4</sup>



# Global, regional, and national disease burden estimates of acute lower respiratory infections due to respiratory syncytial virus in young children in 2015: a systematic review and modelling study

Systematic review : 1/1/1995 – 31/12/2016)

Total: N= 329 studies (79 unpublished)

**Global estimate : 2015**

## Children < 5 years

33.1 million RSV-ALRI **episodes** → 3.2 million admissions → 59.600 in-hospital deaths

## Children < 6 months

1.4 million **admissions** → 27.300 in-hospital **deaths**

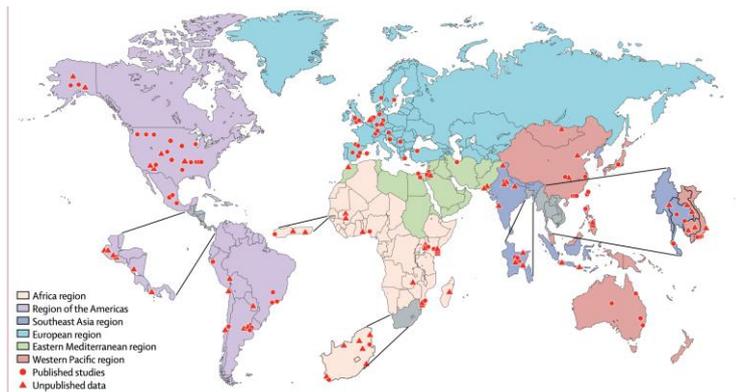


Figure 3: Location of studies reporting incidence, hospital admission, and in-hospital case fatality in children with RSV-ALRI  
RSV-ALRI=RSV-associated acute lower respiratory infection.

About 45 % of all *hospitalizations* and *deaths* among children < 6 months

RSV causes 16-20 % of ALRTI deaths  
(99% in developing countries)



# Estimated Burden of Community-Onset Respiratory Syncytial Virus–Associated **Hospitalizations** Among Children Aged <2 Years in the United States, 2014–15

RSV surveillance (**Oct 2014- April 2015**) : 4 Influenza Hospitalization Surveillance Network sites (FluServ-NET): California, Georgia, Minnesota, Oregon. (**4 %** US population < 2 years)

RSV-associated hospitalizations (aged<2 years) : n= 1554

- ICU: 27 %
- Mechanical ventilation: 6 %
- Deaths: n=5
- **No underlying disease : 1047/1554 = 67 %**
- Adjusted age-specific RSV hospitalizations/100.000
  - **0-2 months: 1971**
  - 3-5 months: 897
  - 6-11 months: 531
  - 12-23 months: 358

Extrapolation to US population: **49.509 – 59.867** community-onset RSV-associated hospitalizations



# Respiratory Syncytial Virus– Associated **Outpatient Visits Among Children Younger Than 24 Months**

Prospective, active surveillance NVSN (2004-2009: Nov – April)  
3 US sites (Nashville, Rochester, Cincinnati)

Average **annual** RSV infection rates children aged < 24 months

- ED: 59.6 / 1000 (peak age: 4 months - 116 / 1000)
- Pediatric practice visits: 205.7 / 1000 (peak age: 5 months – 289.2 / 1000)

Extrapolation to the US population:

- ED: **472.000**
- Pediatric practice visits: **1.6 million**



# THE HEALTH SYSTEM BURDEN OF RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV) IN EUROPE

The study is based on a survey conducted among HCPs (physicians in hospitals and the community, nurses, and health managers) in 20 European countries, from August 2021 to January 2022. The survey results reflect the experience and perception of healthcare professionals.

This study documents the burden and impact of RSV on hospitals and community. Specifically, it characterises the impact of RSV infection on health system performance, on care delivery and the workforce, and increased healthcare consumption due to RSV

Spain	79
United Kingdom	46
Belgium	34
Italy	29
Sweden	25
Switzerland	24
France	23
Portugal	19
Ireland	18
Romania	16
Croatia	15
Finland	14
Germany	13
Netherlands	7
Austria	5
Slovenia	3
Estonia	1
Moldova	1
Luxembourg	1
Serbia	1
Others	6



Respondents by country (n=380)

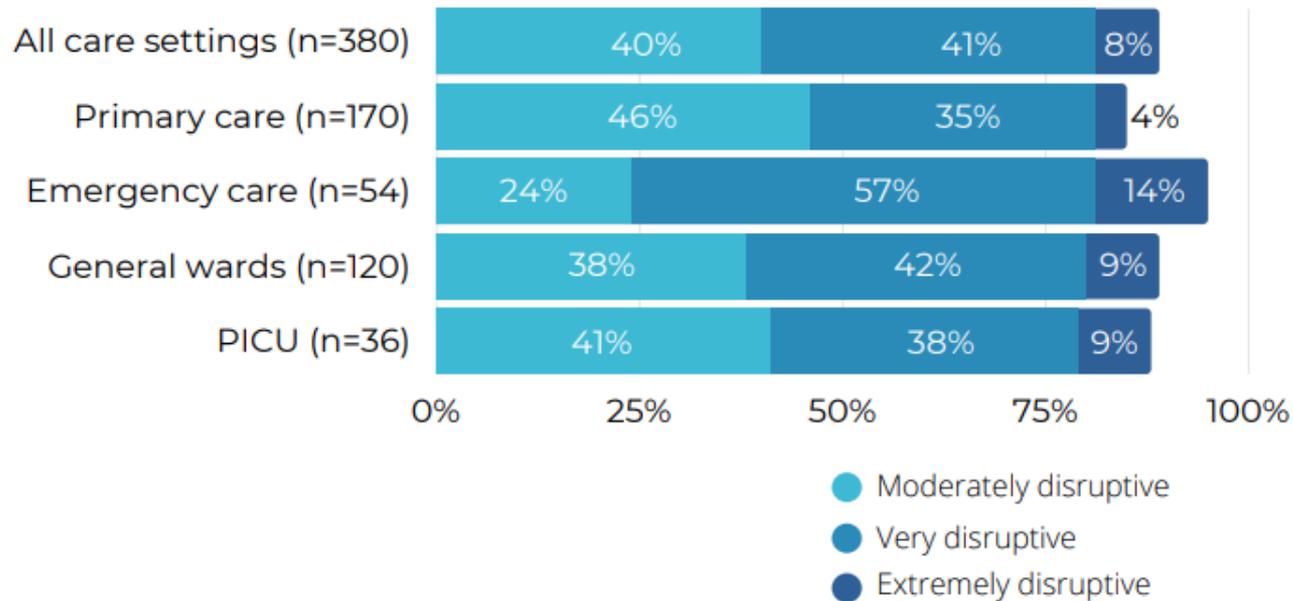


# THE HEALTH SYSTEM BURDEN OF RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV) IN EUROPE

## OVERALL IMPACT OF RSV ON HEALTH SYSTEM PERFORMANCE

**Graph 1. Health systems under pressure**

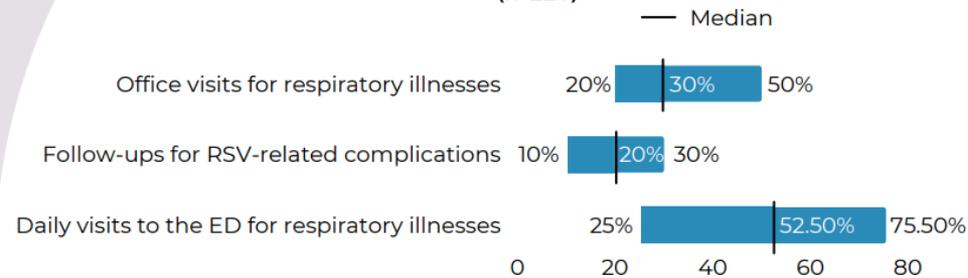
Average disruption to health system performance in peak RSV season (% of respondents)



# THE HEALTH SYSTEM BURDEN OF RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV) IN EUROPE

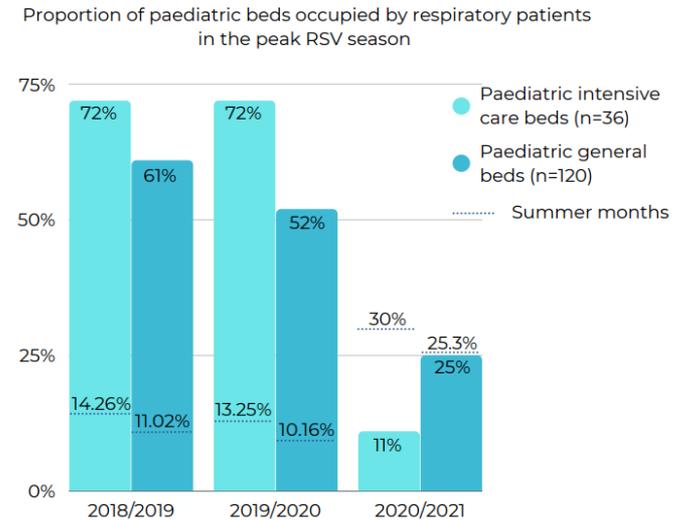
## COMMUNITY/OUTPATIENT HEALTHCARE RESOURCE USE DUE TO RSV

**Graph 5. Increase in outpatient visits attributed to respiratory causes (%) in peak RSV season (n=224)**



## HOSPITAL/INPATIENT HEALTHCARE RESOURCE USE DUE TO RSV

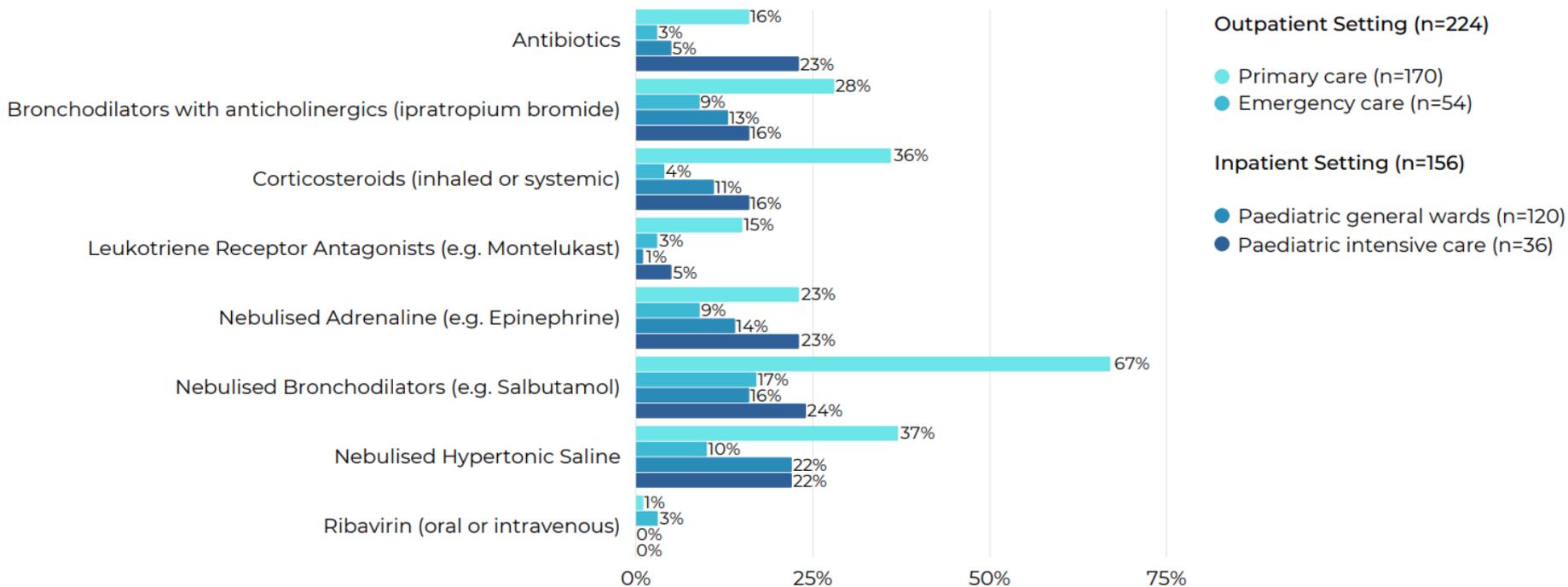
**Graph 6. Bed occupancy for respiratory patients (n=156)**



# THE HEALTH SYSTEM BURDEN OF RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV) IN EUROPE

## PHARMACOLOGICAL INTERVENTIONS

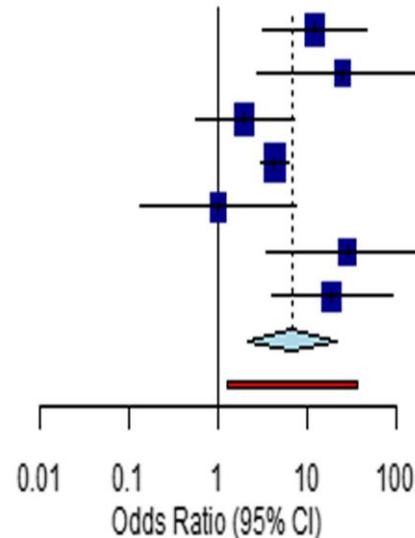
**Graph 7. RSV management across care settings**



# The role of respiratory syncytial virus- and rhinovirus-induced bronchiolitis in recurrent wheeze and asthma—A systematic review and meta-analysis

seven cohort studies

Source	OR (95% CI)
Schauer et al.	12.10 [3.22; 45.54]
Chung et al.	24.75 [2.69; 227.61]
Kristjansson et al.	1.99 [0.56; 7.05]
Tian M et al.	4.33 [2.98; 6.31]
Bertrand P. et al.	1.00 [0.13; 7.45]
Sigurs et al.	28.11 [3.50; 225.70]
Bont L. et al.	18.75 [3.94; 89.13]
Total	6.86 [2.20; 21.35]
Prediction interval (80%-PI)	[1.27; 37.01]
Heterogeneity: $\chi^2_6 = 14.15$ ( $P = .03$ ), $I^2 = 58\%$	



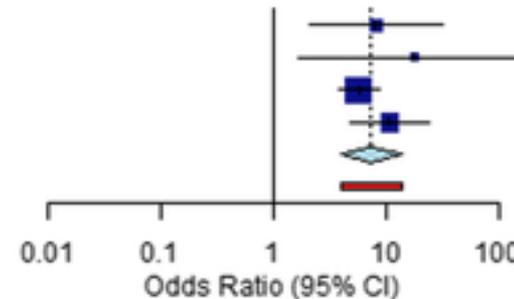
**RSV**-bronchiolitis and **recurrent wheeze** development as compared with healthy controls (OR **6.86**)



# The role of respiratory syncytial virus- and rhinovirus-induced bronchiolitis in recurrent wheeze and asthma—A systematic review and meta-analysis

four cohort studies

Source	OR (95% CI)
Sigurs et al	7.93 [2.06; 30.46]
Yamada Y. et al	17.33 [1.63; 184.36]
Zomer-Kooiker et al	5.56 [3.66; 8.44]
Cassimos et al.	10.51 [4.63; 23.82]
Total	7.21 [3.92; 13.28]
Prediction interval (80%-PI)	[3.92; 13.26]
Heterogeneity: $\chi^2_3 = 2.60$ ( $P = .46$ ), $I^2 = 0\%$	



**RSV**-bronchiolitis and **asthma** development as compared with healthy controls (OR **7.21**)



# RSV prevention

## Why, how, who?

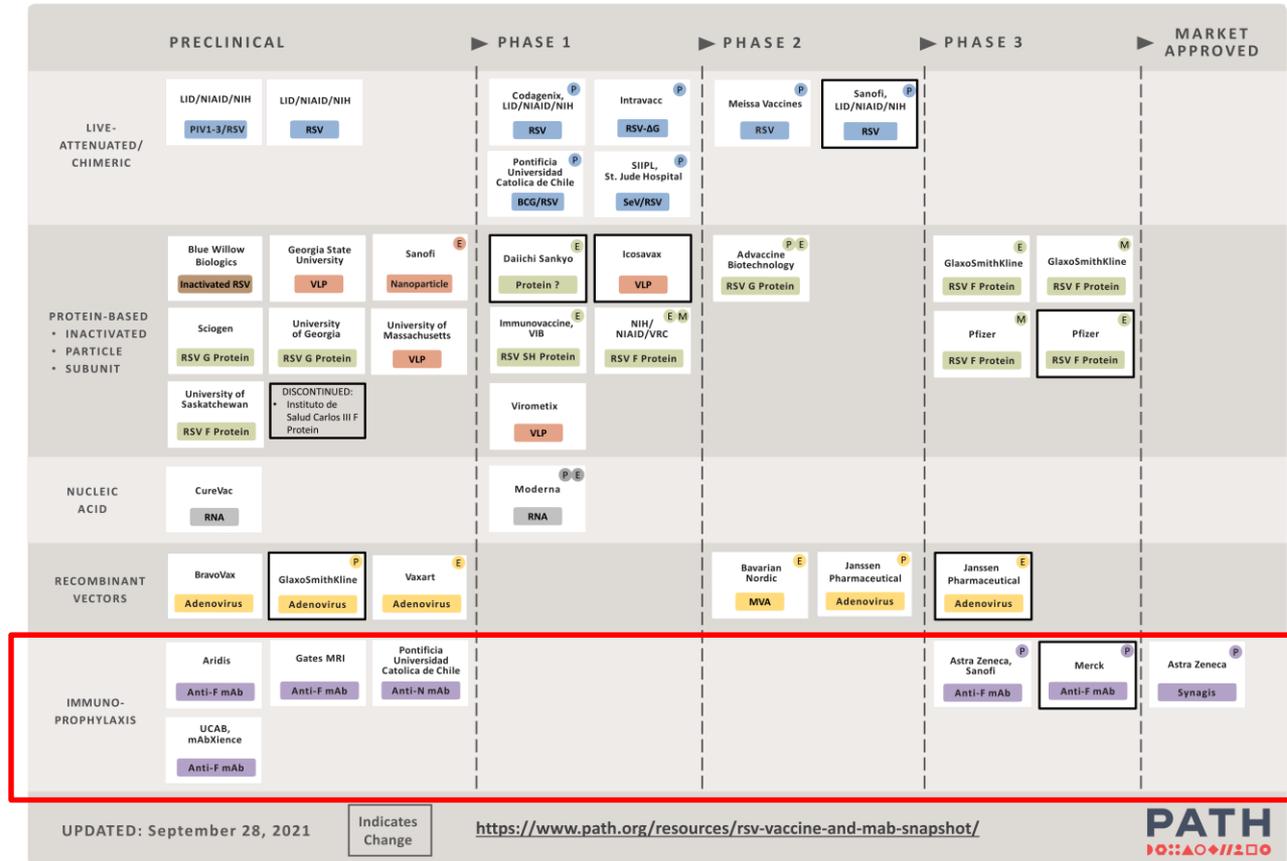
- (Covid – “XX” : NPI ) / Vaccines / monoclonals



# RSV prevention: vaccines & monoclonals

## RSV Vaccine and mAb Snapshot

TARGET INDICATION: P = PEDIATRIC M = MATERNAL E = ELDERLY



# RSV prevention : vaccines

## An investigational respiratory syncytial virus vaccine (RSVPreF3) shows an acceptable safety profile in mothers and infants in an ongoing phase II study

JL Bartha-Rasero<sup>1</sup>, R Jeanfreau<sup>2</sup>, A Kantele<sup>3</sup>, O Reyes<sup>4</sup>, M Garcia Sánchez<sup>5</sup>, P Baroon<sup>6</sup>, JM Langley<sup>6</sup>, MB Encinas Pardilla<sup>6</sup>, E Botelho-Nevers<sup>6</sup>, J Buttery<sup>13</sup>, T Stanley<sup>11</sup>, A Martin Garcia<sup>12</sup>, H Qian<sup>13</sup>, AN Tullo<sup>13</sup>, I Diussaert<sup>13</sup>, Z Bebia<sup>13</sup>, D Henry<sup>12</sup>

### Background & aim

The risk for severe RSV-induced lower respiratory tract illness remains high in infants aged <6 months<sup>1</sup>  
 No licensed vaccine is available against RSV and treatment is limited to supportive care in the general population  
 A maternal RSV vaccine (GSK) is being developed to allow prevention of RSV disease among infants through passive immunity  
**We assessed RSVPreF3 reactivity and safety in mothers following administration during pregnancy and safety in infants; Results until 6 weeks post-delivery are shown here**

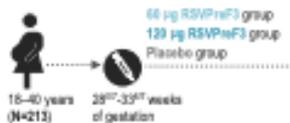
### Conclusions

Two different dose levels of the maternal RSVPreF3 vaccine demonstrated favorable safety profile in pregnant women and their infants until 6 weeks post-delivery  
 Reactogenicity and safety outcomes did not raise safety concerns  
 Incidence of AEs/SAEs was consistent with the background incidence reported in the general pregnant population<sup>13,14</sup>  
 No safety concerns were identified in infants; infant AEs/SAEs, including congenital anomalies (most of them minor), were within the general infant population incidence<sup>13,14</sup>  
 Immune responses are shown in ESPD 2021 abstract #470

### Methods & study population

Click for details

Ongoing phase II, observer-blind, placebo-controlled, randomised 1:1:1, multi-country trial (NCT04126213)



**Maternal reactogenicity and safety**

- Solicited events: within 7 days post-vaccination
- Unsolicited adverse events (AEs): within 30 days post-vaccination
- AEs of special interest (AESIs): until 6 weeks post-delivery
- Serious AEs (SAEs), medically attended AEs (MA-AEs), AEs leading to study discontinuation: until 6 months post-delivery

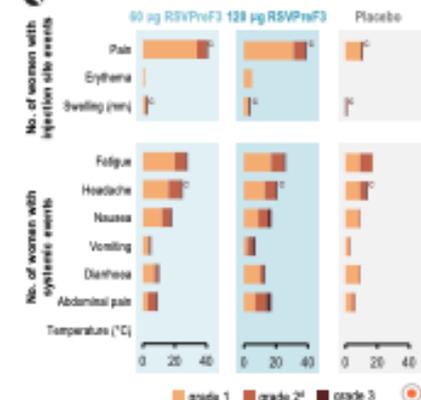
#### Infant safety

- AESIs: until 6 weeks post-birth
- SAEs, MA-AEs, AEs leading to study discontinuation: until 1 year post-birth

\*1 woman refused infant participation; M, number of participants. GARA case definitions were used for maternal, fetal, and infant AEs/SAEs evaluation when available<sup>13</sup>

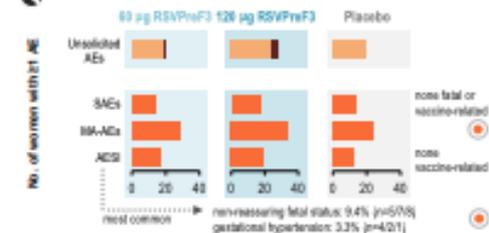
### Results

Most frequent **maternal solicited events**: injection site pain (35.7%) and fatigue (21.9%) across groups (Total N=210\*)

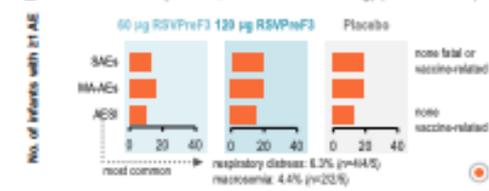


\*2 women did not provide information and 1 was excluded from the analysis due to inadvertent unblinding; \*1 woman reported a grade 3 event in one group and none in other groups, that woman remains blinded since the study is ongoing; \*not applicable for unsolicited AEs; \*1 woman excluded due to inadvertent unblinding

Most common **maternal unsolicited AEs**: influenza (2.8%) and oropharyngeal pain (2.8%) across groups (Total N=212\*)



186 live births without and 21 with congenital anomalies (only 3 infants with major ones, none life threatening) (Total N=207\*)



Presenting author: JL Bartha-Rasero  
[j.l.bartha@gsk.com](mailto:j.l.bartha@gsk.com)

Copyright © 2021 GSK group of companies. All rights reserved. Disclaimers, References, Funding: GlaxoSmithKline Biologics SA. Acknowledgments: Medical writing and editorial support provided by Icona C. Ica and Talena Pimenta (Glaxo UK GSK). The authors thank study participants and everyone who contributed to this study.



# RSV prevention : vaccines



**GSK's halts RSV vaccine trials in pregnant women after pause**



Phil Taylor

February 28, 2022

Shares in the company were down almost 2% after the decision was announced to stop the phase 3 GRACE trial and two other studies involving pregnant women.



# RSV prevention: monoclonals

- Palivizumab (Medimmune)
- Nirsevimab (Medimmune/Astra-Zeneca/Sanofi-Pasteur)
- MK-1654 (MSD)



# Palivizumab: reimbursement criteria in Belgium : **children at risk**

- Children born **at less than 28 weeks of gestation** and younger than 12 months of age at the onset of the RSV season
- Children born **between 28 and 35 weeks of gestation**, who needed ventilation for at least 48 hours in NICU and less than 6 months of age at the onset of the RSV season
- Children **less than 2 years of age and requiring chronic O2 treatment for BPD** within the last 6 months
- Children **less than 2 years of age and with haemodynamically significant congenital heart disease**
- NB: Children must have been **admitted in a NICU**



# RSV prevention: monoclonals

*The* **NEW ENGLAND**  
**JOURNAL** *of* **MEDICINE**

Griffin P et al N Engl J Med **2020** 383; 5: 415-425

Single-Dose **Nirsevimab** for Prevention of RSV in Preterm Infants

Phase 2b

Hammit LL et al N Engl J Med **2022**; 386(9) 837-846

**Nirsevimab** for Prevention of RSV in Healthy  
Late-Preterm and Term Infants

Phase 3

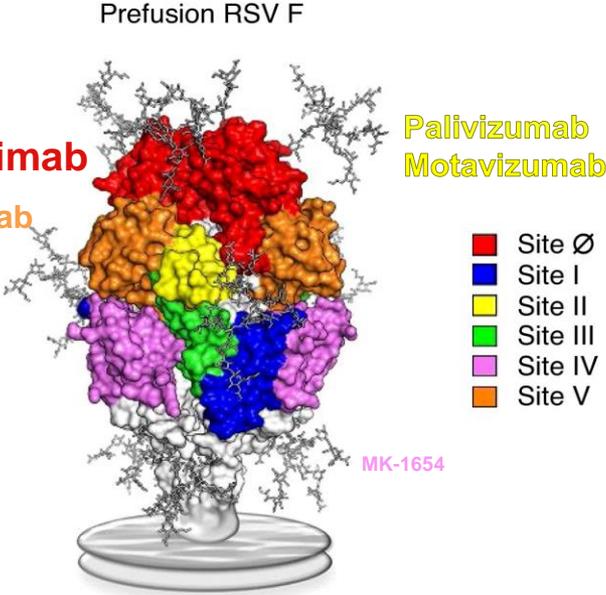
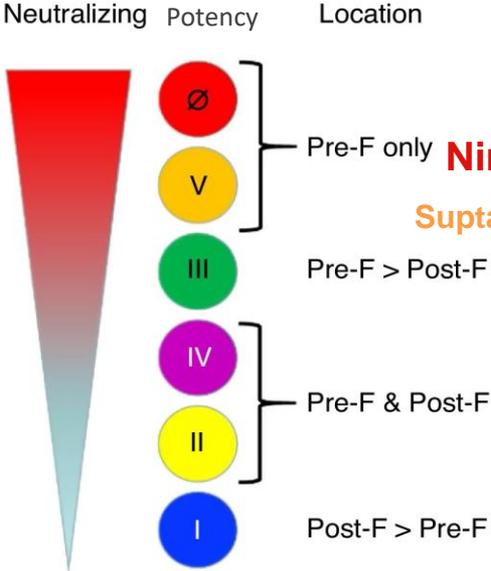
Domachowske et al N Engl J Med **2022** 386(9)

Safety of **Nirsevimab** for RSV in Infants with Heart  
or Lung Disease or Prematurity

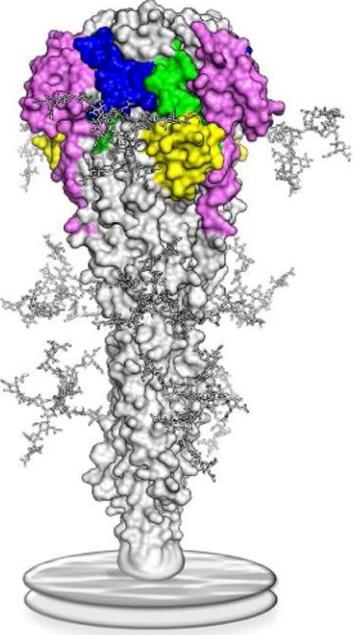
Phase 2b + 3



# Target site for RSV mABs : F(usion) protein



Postfusion RSV F



Current Opinion in Virology

Graham BS, 2017. Current Opinion in Virology, 23:107-112



# Single-Dose Nirsevimab for Prevention of RSV in Preterm Infants

A phase 2b randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study to evaluate the safety and efficacy of nirsevimab, a monoclonal antibody with an extended half-life against respiratory syncytial virus, in healthy preterm infants

## Study population

- 1453 Preterm infants 29 – 35 weeks gestational age entering their first RSV season who did not meet AAP or other national/local guidelines to receive palivizumab (Synagis®)

## • Primary endpoint

- Incidence of **medically attended LRTI** (inpatient and outpatient) caused by RT-PCR confirmed RSV for 150 days after dosing

## • Secondary and exploratory endpoints

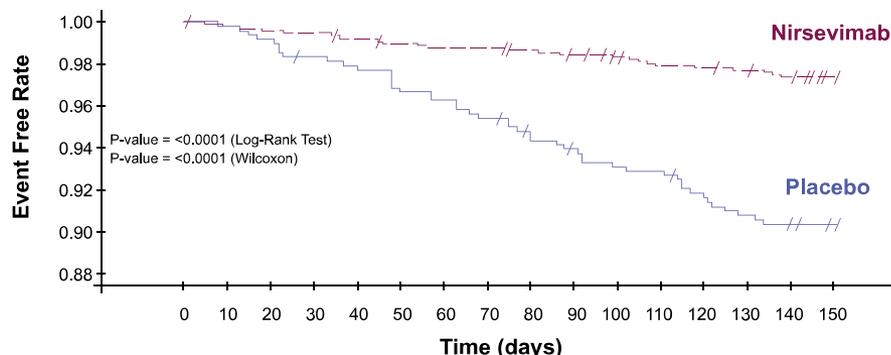
- Incidence of **hospitalization** due to RT-PCR-confirmed RSV for 150 days after dosing
- Safety
- Pharmacokinetics
- Anti-drug antibodies
- Healthcare resource utilization and caregiver burden assessment

Phase 2b



## Single-Dose Nirsevimab for Prevention of RSV in Preterm Infants

Kaplan-Meier plot for time to first medically attended RSV LRTI



Phase 2b

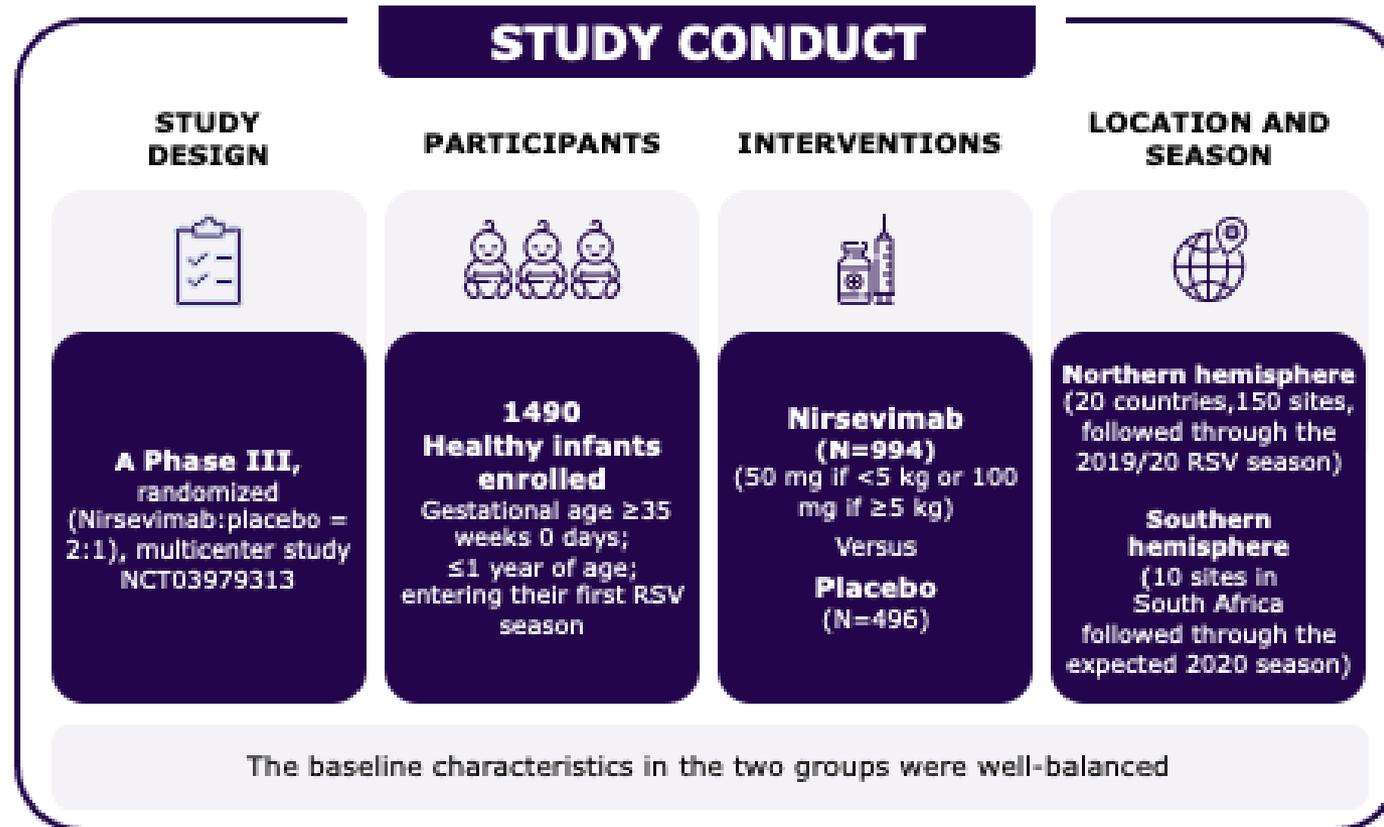
		Placebo N=484	Nirsevimab N=969	Relative risk reduction (95% CI)	P-value
Medically attended RSV LRTI	Observed events	46 (9.5%)	25 (2.6%)	70.1% (52.3%, 81.2%)	<math><0.0001</math>
	Subjects requiring imputation (Poisson)	11 (2.3%)	24 (2.5%)		
	CMH	46 (9.5%)	25 (2.6%)	72.9% (56.5%, 83.1%)	
RSV LRTI hospitalization	Observed events	20 (4.1%)	8 (0.8%)	78.4% (51.9%, 90.3%)	0.0001
	Subjects requiring imputation (Poisson)	11 (2.3%)	24 (2.5%)		
	CMH	20 (4.1%)	8 (0.8%)	80.0% (55.0%, 91.1%)	

Statistical models:

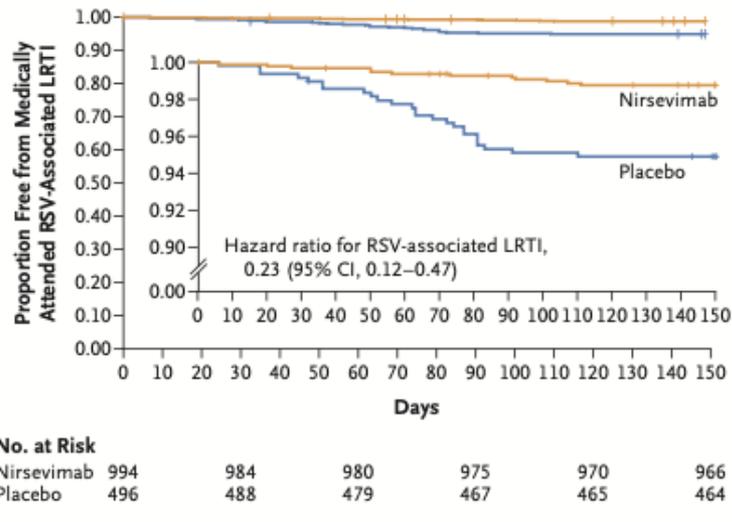
1. Poisson regression with imputation of missing data
2. Cochran Mantel Haenszel



# Nirsevimab for Prevention of RSV in Healthy Late-Preterm and Term Infants



# Nirsevimab for Prevention of RSV in Healthy Late-Preterm and Term Infants



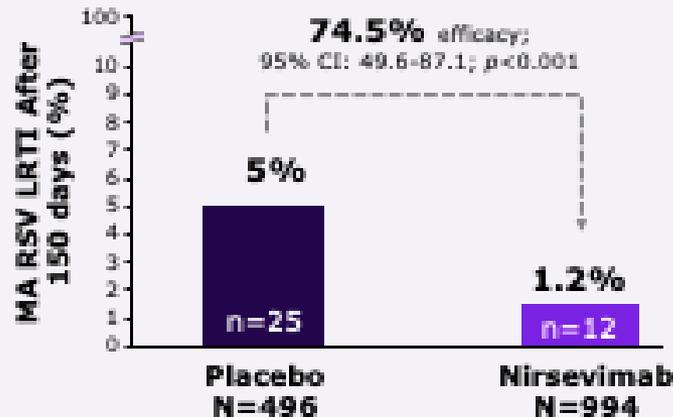
**Table 3. Outcomes through 150 Days after the Injection.\***

Outcome	Nirsevimab (N = 686) no. (%)	Placebo (N = 342) no. (%)	Efficacy (95% CI)†	Cases Averted per 1000 Infants Treated (95% CI)‡	Number Needed to Treat (95% CI)§
Medically attended RSV-associated lower respiratory tract infection on any test result¶	17 (2.5)	37 (10.8)	77.0 (59.8 to 86.8)	83.4 (62.0 to 105.0)	12 (10 to 17)
Medically attended RSV-associated lower respiratory tract infection on central test result¶	15 (2.2)	33 (9.6)	77.2 (58.7 to 87.5)	74.7 (53.0 to 95.0)	14 (11 to 19)
Medically attended lower respiratory tract infection of any cause¶	60 (8.7)	62 (18.1)	51.5 (32.6 to 65.2)	93.6 (63.0 to 124.0)	11 (9 to 16)
Hospitalization for any respiratory illness due to RSV on any test result	9 (1.3)	11 (3.2)	59.0 (2.1 to 82.9)	19.0 (5.5 to 32.0)	53 (32 to 182)
Hospitalization for any respiratory illness due to RSV on central test result	7 (1.0)	9 (2.6)	61.1 (–3.7 to 85.4)	16.1 (4.5 to 28.0)	62 (36 to 223)
Hospitalization for any respiratory illness of any cause	16 (2.3)	14 (4.1)	42.8 (–15.8 to 71.7)	17.7 (2.0 to 33.0)	57 (31 to 500)



# Nirsevimab for Prevention of RSV in Healthy Late-Preterm and Term Infants

## EFFICACY



### PRIMARY ENDPOINT

The incidence of **MA RSV-associated LRTI** was:

- 1.2% in the nirsevimab group
- 5.0% in the placebo group

Efficacy of nirsevimab of **74.5%** (95% CI 49.6, 87.1;  $p < 0.001$ ), meeting the primary endpoint

### SECONDARY ENDPOINT

The incidence of **RSV-associated hospitalization due to MA LRTI** was:

- 0.6% in the nirsevimab group
- 1.6% in the placebo group

Efficacy of nirsevimab of **62.1%** (95% CI - 8.6, 86.8;  $p = 0.07$ )



# Nirsevimab for Prevention of RSV in Healthy Late-Preterm and Term Infants

## SAFETY



### SAFETY

- Safety events were balanced between the treatment groups
- Three deaths occurred through day 361 (all in nirsevimab recipients on or after day 140)
- None of the serious adverse events (SAEs), including deaths, were considered by investigators to be related to the investigational product
- A single adverse event (AE) of special interest was a grade 3 generalized macular rash without any systemic features, which required no treatment and resolved; the investigator considered this event to be related to nirsevimab



## CORRESPONDENCE

## Safety of Nirsevimab for RSV in Infants with Heart or Lung Disease or Prematurity

**Table 1.** Adverse Events Occurring during Treatment through 360 Days after Administration of the First Dose of Nirsevimab in the As-Treated Population.\*

Event	Preterm Cohort		CHD–CLD Cohort	
	Palivizumab (N=206)	Nirsevimab (N=406)	Palivizumab (N=98)	Nirsevimab (N=208)
	<i>number of infants (percent)</i>			
≥1 Adverse event	134 (65.0)	268 (66.0)	72 (73.5)	148 (71.2)
≥1 Treatment-related adverse event	4 (1.9)	6 (1.5)	2 (2.0)	4 (1.9)
≥1 Adverse event of grade ≥3 severity†	7 (3.4)	14 (3.4)	13 (13.3)	30 (14.4)
≥1 Treatment-related adverse event of grade ≥3 severity†	0	0	0	0
Any adverse event with outcome of death (grade 5 severity)†	0	2 (0.5)	1 (1.0)	3 (1.4)
≥1 Serious adverse event‡	11 (5.3)	28 (6.9)	20 (20.4)	40 (19.2)
≥1 Serious adverse event, grade ≥3 adverse event, or both†	11 (5.3)	28 (6.9)	21 (21.4)	45 (21.6)
≥1 Treatment-related serious adverse event	0	0	0	0
≥1 Adverse event of special interest§	0	1 (0.2)	0	1 (0.5)
≥1 Covid-19–related adverse event¶	1 (0.5)	8 (2.0)	1 (1.0)	2 (1.0)



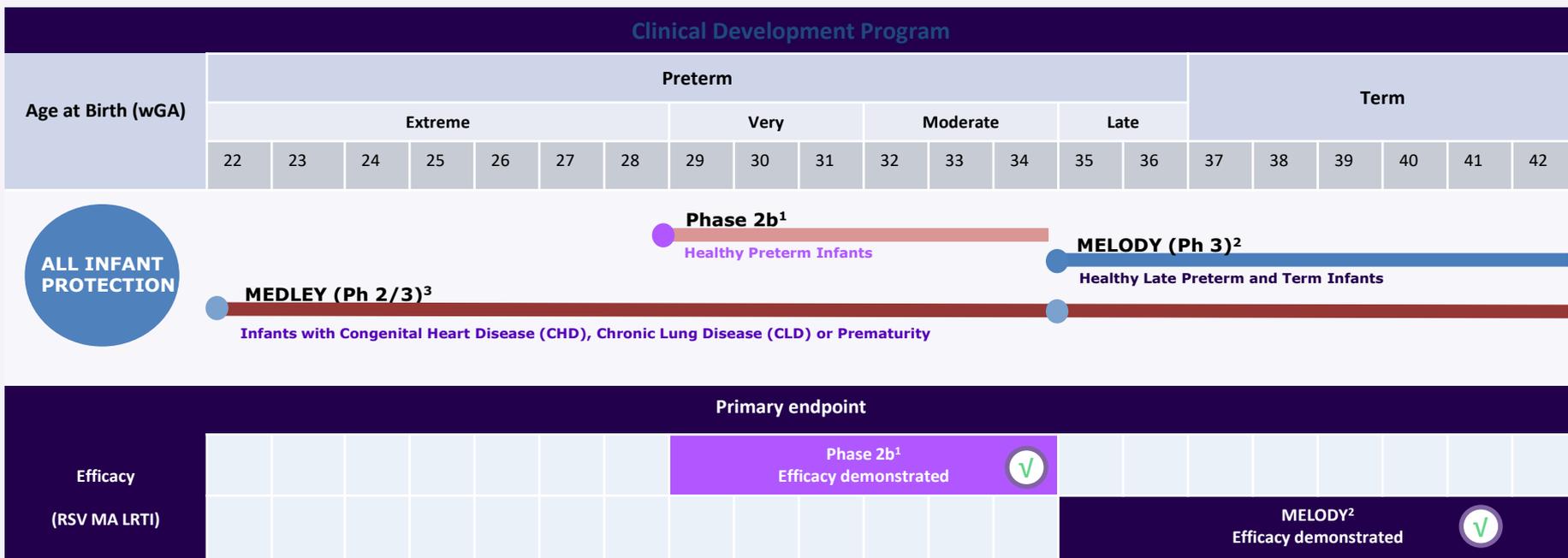


Paradigma shift:

Nirsevimab to Protect All Infants from RSV ???



Positive Results from Studies



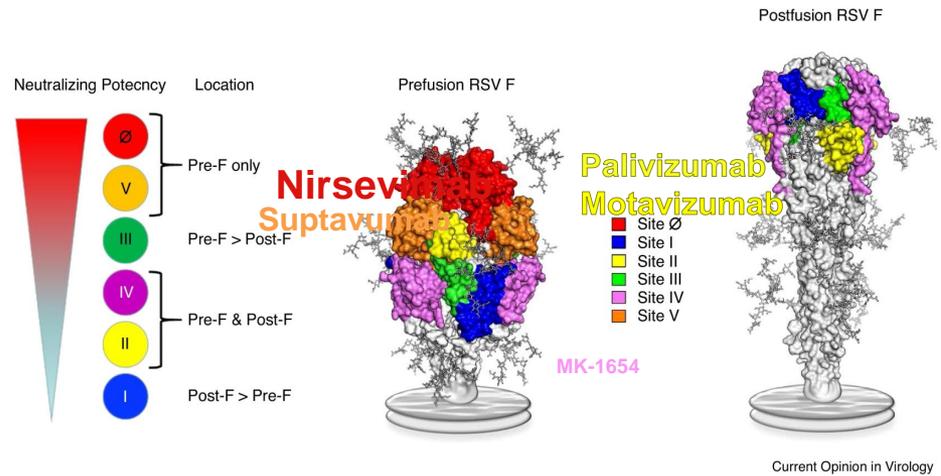
MAT-GLB-2200707 (V1.0) | March 2022

1. Griffin MP et al. N Engl J Med 2020;383:415-25

2. Hammitt LL et al. N Engl J Med 2022;386:837-46.

3. Domachowske JB, et al. N Engl J Med 2022; 386:892-894





## MK-1654: Clinical Development Overview

Trial	Patient Population	Interventions	Primary Endpoint
MK-1654-004 (NCT04767373) Phase IIb/III	Healthy pre-term and full-term infants	Single IM dose MK-1654 or placebo	Percentage of participants with RSV-associated MAURI, Percentage of participants with solicited (S)AEs
MK-1654-007 (NCT04938830) Phase III	Infants and Children at Increased Risk for Severe RSV Disease	IM injection with MK-1654 or palivizumab	Participants with solicited (S)AEs, Percentage of participants with RSV-associated MAURI,



# RSV prevention

## Why, how, who/when?

- Risk population
- All infants?
- Seasonality



# RSV prevention: target population

- Risk infants ( palivizumab)
- All “young” infants
- (Elderly)

→ Seasonality



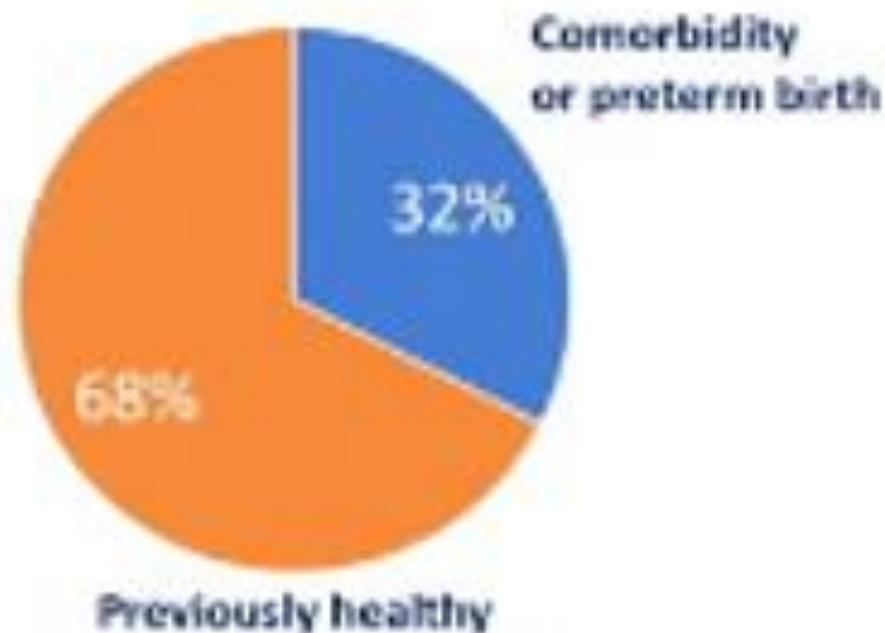
# RSV epidemiology

- RSV infection accounts for 60-80 % of infant bronchiolitis cases and up to 40 % of cases of paediatric pneumonia<sup>1</sup>
- 70 % of infants are infected in the 1<sup>st</sup> year and 90 % by 2 years of life → up to 40 % develop LRTI during the initial episode<sup>2</sup>
- A leading cause of hospitalization in infants during the winter time – **most (up to 75 %) in healthy, term infants** <sup>3-5</sup>
- Hospitalization rate: 1-2/100 infants < 2 mos and 0,5/100 < 2 years<sup>2,3-5</sup>
- Highest risk during the 1<sup>st</sup> RSV season<sup>5</sup>
- High burden of outpatient and ED visits as well <sup>1,4</sup>



# Estimated Burden of Community-Onset Respiratory Syncytial Virus–Associated Hospitalizations Among Children Aged <2 Years in the United States, 2014–15

No underlying condition or born premature: **68 %**



# RSV: peak of incidence – Italy

63 % below age 3 months of age

- 1.4 % (9/624) very early pre-terms (< 28 weeks)
- 6.7 % (42/624) pre-terms (< 34 weeks)
- 5 % (31/624) other risk factors

→ **88.3 %** were NOT eligible for prophylaxis  
(because healthy and not premature)



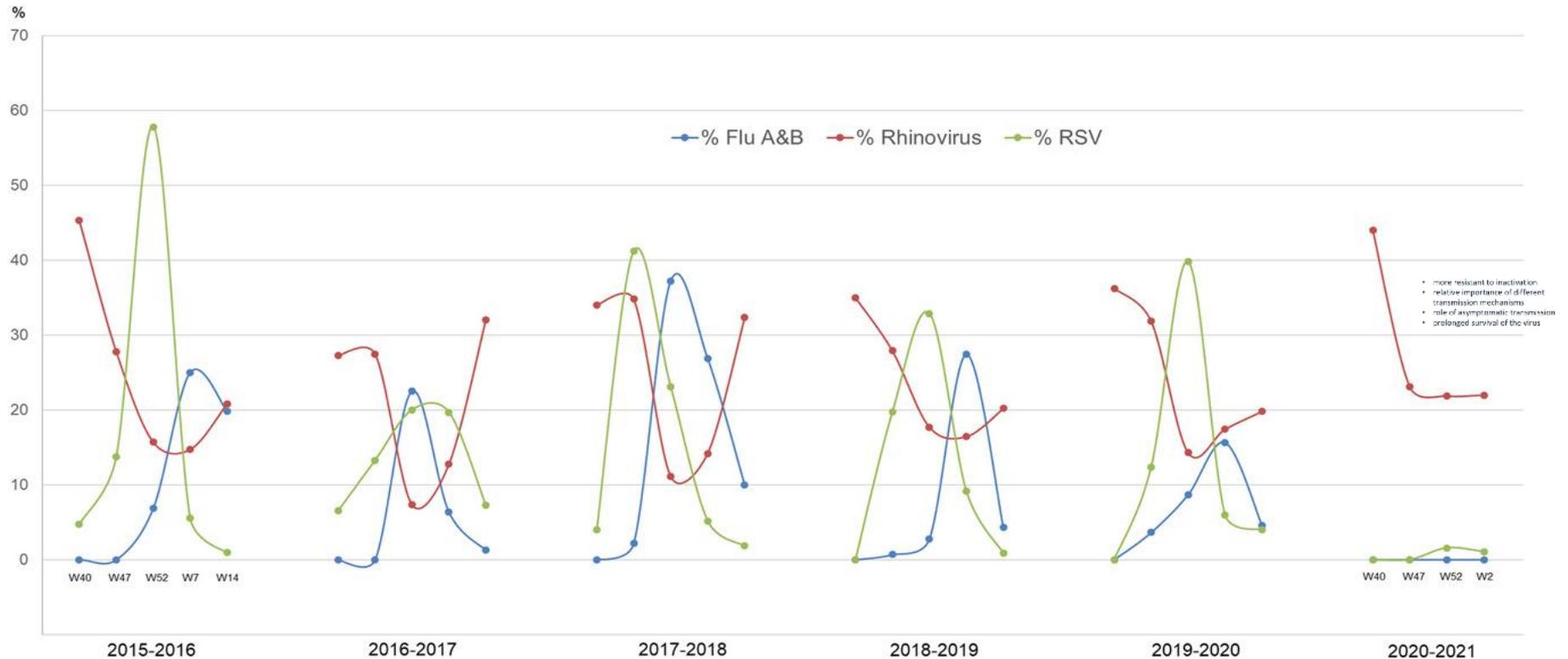
# RSV prevention

## Why, how, who/when?

- Risk population
- All infants?
- Seasonality



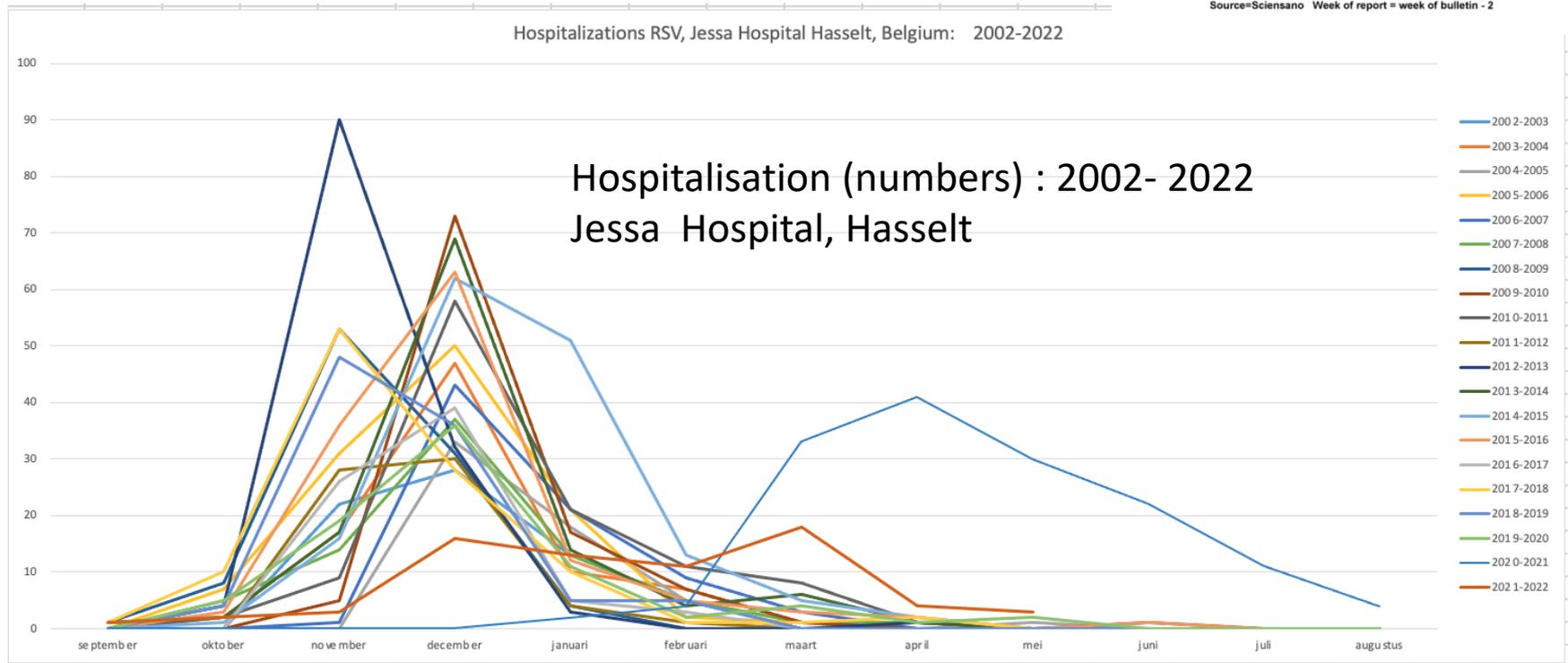
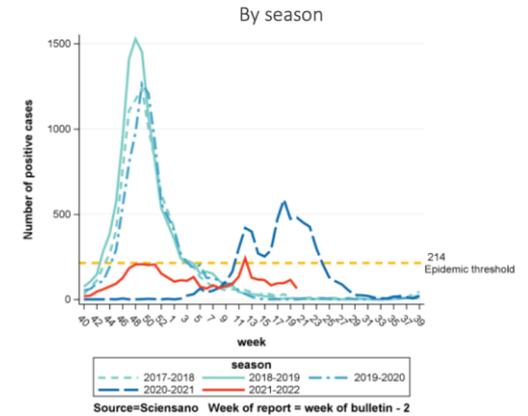
# COVID-19 pandemic period, where are the seasonal viruses?



Schematic winter distribution (% of positive samples) for Flu A and B viruses, respiratory syncytial viruses, and rhinoviruses, from 2015–2016 to 2020–2021. The prevalences were reported at Weeks 40, 47, 52, 7, and 14 (except for winter 2020–2021 in which the fourth and last date corresponds to the second week of 2021)



# RSV seasonality



# RSV prevention

Type	Target population and main characteristics
Maternal vaccines	Vaccination of pregnant women to protect neonates through transplacental transfer of maternal antibodies Protection of the neonate from birth Duration equivalent to the life of maternal antibodies (i.e., 2–4 months) Can immunize only infants born just before and during RSV epidemic season, and that have been born at term
mAbs with extended half-life	Neonates and infants Immediate onset of protection Duration of up to 5 months, throughout the RSV season Can immunize all children, at birth if born during the RSV season and by appointment if born before the season
Pediatric vaccines	Children, early infancy No protection during the first months of life Durable protection (years) throughout childhood

*mAb* monoclonal antibody, *RSV* respiratory syncytial virus



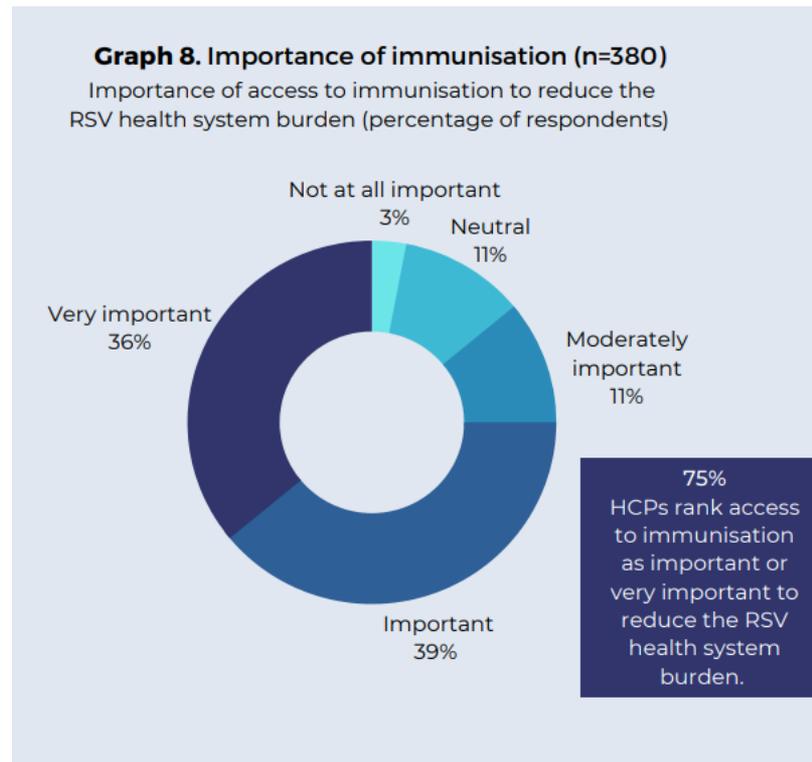
# RSV prevention: challenges

- Maternal vaccination (coverage)
  - Infant vaccination
  - mABs (duration of protection)
  - Implementation
    - Who: high-risks <-> all “young” infants
    - When - timing : season – all year round
    - Where: maternity ward, K&G/ONE, practitioners
  - Surveillance: Belgian data
  - Cost-benefit
- Combination?



# THE HEALTH SYSTEM BURDEN OF RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV) IN EUROPE

## PREPARE FOR ACCESS TO IMMUNISATION



# THE HEALTH SYSTEM BURDEN OF RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV) IN EUROPE

## KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Broaden understanding/awareness (community, caregivers, HCP)
- Maintain infection control measures (NPI,...)
- Improve/expand diagnostic capabilities (POCT)
- Standardise the management of RSV infections
- Prepare for access to immunization

