

### LEARN MORE ABOUT AREXVY

#### What is **AREXVY**?

AREXVY is a vaccine that helps prevent lower lung disease caused by respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) in adults 60 years and older and in adults 50 through 59 years old at increased risk of RSV.







#### WHAT IS RSV?

RSV is a common and highly contagious respiratory virus, causing infections of the lungs and breathing passages.

#### Who is at risk?

RSV can infect people of any age. It usually causes mild, cold-like symptoms, but it can also cause more serious respiratory illness as well as make some illnesses and conditions worse in older adults.

Those who are at higher risk of severe outcomes from RSV include:

- Older adults who experience a natural decrease in immunity due to aging
- Adults with underlying chronic conditions, including asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), heart disease, diabetes, and advanced liver or kidney diseases
- Adults with weakened immune systems

### Why should I be concerned about RSV?

Older adults are at increased risk of severe outcomes from RSV because our immune systems weaken as we age, making it harder for our body to fight off infections.

In severe cases, RSV can lead to pneumonia and trigger new symptoms or worsen the symptoms of chronic conditions such as asthma, COPD, and congestive heart failure. RSV complications could result in the need for hospital stays as well as increase the risk of heart attacks, stroke, or even death.

Speak with your healthcare professional to understand your risk of RSV.

#### When is RSV season?

RSV infection can happen at any time of the year. In Canada, it typically follows a seasonal pattern, with increased activity from late fall to early spring.

#### Who is eligible for the vaccine?

Adults 60 years of age and older and adults 50 through 59 years old at increased risk of RSV may be eligible for the AREXVY vaccine.



## HOW DOES AREXVY WORK?

AREXVY is designed to help the immune system make antibodies and white blood cells, significantly lowering the risk of RSV lower lung infections caused by both subtypes of RSV (RSV-A and RSV-B).

As AREXVY does not contain the RSV virus, it cannot cause an infection.

As with all vaccines, AREXVY may not fully protect all people who are vaccinated.

#### How is AREXVY given?

- AREXVY is given as a single injection into a muscle (usually in the upper arm).
- AREXVY may be given at the same time as an inactivated seasonal flu vaccine.
- If AREXVY is given at the same time as another vaccine, a different injection site will be used for each vaccine.

Schedule your **AREXVY** vaccination today.

## POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

Like all medicines, AREXVY can cause side effects, although not everyone gets them.

The following side effects may occur after receiving AREXVY. Most side effects are mild or moderate and do not last long (usually 1 to 2 days). These are not all the possible side effects.

#### Very common

(these may occur with more than 1 in 10 doses of the vaccine):



Pain at the injection site



Headache



Tiredness



Muscle pain (myalgia) and joint pain (arthralgia)

#### Common

(these may occur with up to 1 in 10 doses of the vaccine):

- Redness and swelling at the injection site, fever, chills
- Runny nose (rhinorrhea)

#### Uncommon

(these may occur with up to 1 in 100 doses of the vaccine):

- Injection site itching (pruritus), pain, generally feeling unwell
- Swelling of lymph nodes (lymphadenopathy)
- Allergic reaction such as rash
- Feeling sick (nausea), stomach pain

If any of the side effects get serious or become bad enough to interfere with your daily activities, or if you have a troublesome symptom or side effect that is not listed here, tell your healthcare professional.

#### **FAQs**

#### Who should not get AREXVY?

Do not use AREXVY if you are allergic to any of the ingredients contained in AREXVY. Signs of an allergic reaction may include itchy skin rash, shortness of breath, and swelling of the face or tongue.

# What should I tell my healthcare professional before I'm given AREXVY?

Talk about any health conditions or problems you may have, including if you have:

- A severe infection with a high temperature. In these cases, the vaccination may be postponed until recovery. A minor infection such as a cold, including mild fever, should not be a problem, but tell your healthcare professional first.
- A bleeding problem or bruise easily.
- Fainted with a previous injection or before receiving any needle injection.

### What other warnings should I know about?

- Do not drive or use machines if you are feeling unwell.
- AREXVY is not indicated for use in infants, children, and adolescents under 18 years old.
- AREXVY is not recommended for use in pregnancy or in breast-feeding women.

#### Why should I worry about RSV?

RSV is a contagious virus. It usually causes mild, cold-like symptoms but can also cause more serious lung disease and possibly worsen other health conditions in older adults. The body's immune system typically weakens with older age and has a harder time fighting off infections, such as those from RSV. If you are an older adult and have a weakened immune system or have certain health conditions, you may be at higher risk of severe outcomes from RSV. Ask your doctor about your risk.

#### What side effects can I expect?

Like all medicines, AREXVY can cause side effects, although not everyone gets them. Most side effects are mild or moderate and do not last long (usually 1 to 2 days). These are not all the possible side effects you may have when taking AREXVY; however, the most common side effects after receiving AREXVY are:

- Pain at the injection site
- Tiredness
- Headache
- Muscle pain and joint pain

### What are the ingredients in AREXVY?

Each dose of AREXVY contains a medicinal ingredient called RSVPreF3.

In addition, an ingredient called  ${\sf ASO1}_{\sf E}$  adjuvant is used to improve the body's immune response to the vaccine. This is why AREXVY is referred to as an adjuvanted vaccine.

### Is AREXVY covered by my insurance?

Some private insurers may cover all or part of the cost of AREXVY. Please contact your private insurer for more information on your coverage. Make sure to have the AREXVY Drug Identification Number (DIN) handy.

**AREXVY DIN: 02540207** 



# **Notes** Use the space below to write down any notes or questions you have about AREXVY. Vaccination appointment Name: \_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **NEED MORE INFORMATION?**



Location: \_

- Talk to your healthcare professional.
- Find the full Patient Medication Information at gsk.ca/arexvy/en.

