

Advocating for Expanded Infant RSV Protection in Saskatchewan

The Healthcare Gap

Saskatchewan has taken an important step by providing publicly funded RSV immunization for all infants born during RSV season, but **infants born outside of the RSV season window are left unprotected**. Infants born in the spring or summer are just as vulnerable when RSV season arrives, yet they currently have no access to publicly funded protection. You can help close this gap by writing a letter of support to your MLA.

How to Advocate for Expanded Protection

1. Send a letter to your local MLA to raise awareness of the protection gap and encourage them to take action by advocating for public funding as a priority for their constituents. You can find your MLA's email address by [entering your Postal Code here](#).
2. Copy and paste the draft email below, personalize and send to your MLA

Draft E-mail Template

Subject: Prioritize RSV protection for all infants by closing the seasonal equity gap

Dear **[MLA's Name]**,

I am writing as a **[parent / physician / healthcare provider]** in Saskatchewan to ask for your support in expanding our publicly funded RSV program to cover **all infants**, regardless of when they are born, beginning in Fall 2026.

Saskatchewan's publicly funded RSV immunization program currently covers infants born between October 1 and March 31, but babies born in the spring and summer months enter their first RSV season without access to the same protection. RSV is a leading cause of hospitalization in young children, and expanding coverage to all infants — regardless of birth date — would ensure every family has equal access to protection.

There is strong Canadian evidence that prevention programs work. Quebec's universal infant RSV prevention program showed:

- **89% reduction in RSV hospitalizations**
- **88% reduction in ICU admissions**
- Only **41 infants need to be immunized to prevent one hospitalization**

Other provinces have already made this next step. Most notably, Manitoba recently expanded its RSV program to cover all infants born at any time of year, ensuring every infant receives protection during their first RSV season. Newfoundland and Labrador similarly expanded publicly funded RSV eligibility to all infants under six months of age. These expansions reflect a growing national consensus that RSV protection should reach every infant, regardless of birth date. Saskatchewan has already shown leadership in infant RSV protection, and is well-positioned to take this next step to ensure no infant is left behind.

This is both a **health and equity issue**. Infants born outside of RSV season, including many from vulnerable and Indigenous communities, are equally at risk, yet fall through the gaps of the current approach.

I respectfully ask your support in advocating that Saskatchewan expand its publicly funded RSV prevention program to cover all infants, regardless of birth date, starting Fall 2026.

Timely action is critical. Delays will mean babies born this spring and summer will once again enter the upcoming RSV season without protection.

Thank you for your leadership and for supporting policies that protect Saskatchewan families.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Optional: Your role (parent, physician, etc.)]