



A Research Surveillance Study and Cost Analysis of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Hospital Admissions in the Arctic Communities in Canada

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Background and Purpose of the Study

Inuit babies in Nunavut are often hospitalized with lung infections. To help us understand why this is happening, we are gathering information about all babies from Nunavut admitted to the hospital who are less than one year of age. We are trying to understand which viruses are making the babies sick and how much it costs for babies to be admitted to the hospital.

What is Involved?

We are asking a few simple questions, mostly gathered from the hospital chart, such as the age of the baby, the number of days the baby is in the hospital, and which community they are from.

Normally when babies are admitted to the hospital they have nasal fluids tested for viruses. We are asking permission to test any unused fluid for additional viruses. The importance of this testing is that Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) has a vaccine that can prevent RSV and can reduce hospital admissions for many children. Before making this vaccine available to all infants (under the age of one) in the North we need to determine how many children actually contract Respiratory Syncytial Virus.

For more information on this study, email Debbie Cote at dcote@mich