

RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS



Issue

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), which causes lower respiratory infection, was responsible for more than 1,00,000 deaths in children under five worldwide.

Background

RSV is one of the most common causes of acute lower respiratory infection in young children.

Details

- The study says that children six months and younger are particularly vulnerable to RSV as they have not been exposed to the virus due to Covid-19 restrictions.
- These groups have no immunity against this virus. Identifying and immunizing them should be prioritized.

The infection

- The Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) is a common respiratory virus that affects the lungs and the bronchiole.
- Healthy children and adults usually suffer from mild symptoms. Serious infection can lead to pneumonia and will need hospitalization.

Symptoms of the infection

- Runny nose
- Decrease in appetite

- Sneezing and coughing
- Fever
- Irritation
- Tiredness
- Decreased appetite
- Breathlessness
- Bluish coloring of lips, mouth and fingernails.

Vulnerable groups

Infants, individuals over the age of 65 and those with heart or lung conditions or a weakened immune system are particularly vulnerable.

Spread

- The infection is highly contagious and can be spread to close contacts through sneeze, cough and other air-borne medium.
- It can enter body through nose, eyes and mouths. Coming in contact with objects carrying virus can also spread infection.

NOTES

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