

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

11-16-22

**PERFORMANCE GAP/ ACTIVITY NEED:** Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) causes acute respiratory tract illness in persons of all ages. The clinical manifestations vary with age, health status, and whether the infection is primary or secondary. RSV can cause severe lower respiratory tract disease, including bronchiolitis, bronchospasm, pneumonia, and acute respiratory failure in children. Hospitalization for RSV infection may occur in children >5 years, but these children often have underlying medical problems (eg, neurologic disease, immunodeficiency). RSV is also a common cause of outpatient visits for children <24 months of age. Transmission of RSV is primarily by inoculation of nasopharyngeal or ocular mucous membranes after contact with virus-containing secretions or fomites. Direct contact is the most common route of transmission, but large droplet aerosols also have been implicated. RSV can survive for several hours on hands and fomites. Hand washing and contact precautions are therefore important measures to prevent health care-associated spread. Studies of transmission dynamics suggest that infection of infants most often follows infection of older siblings. Adults with cardiopulmonary disease are also at risk for severe lower respiratory tract disease [Source: UpToDate]. This just-in-time lecture was requested by leadership of the emergency department at PSJMC to address best practices in diagnosis and treatment of RSV, as increasing numbers of RSV cases are seen in the outpatient setting.

**DESIRED OUTCOMES:** At the end of the activity, attendees will be able to:

- describe the epidemiology and pathophysiology of RSV.
- determine the signs and symptoms and who is most at risk for RSV.
- incorporate best practices in the diagnosis and treatment of RSV, especially in children.

**LEARNERS:** emergency medicine specialists, pulmonologists, otolaryngologists, pediatricians, infectious disease specialists, internists, general/family practitioners, respiratory therapists, radiologists, pathologists

**DESIRABLE PHYSICIAN ATTRIBUTE:** provide patient centered care, work in multidisciplinary teams

**CULTURAL/LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY/IMPLICIT BIAS (AB241)** Reflect on the patient populations most affected and consider how implicit bias may impact appropriate care of these patients. Children <5 years with social vulnerability (eg, lack of running water in the home, young maternal age) may be at higher risk for RSV infection.