

# Palivizumab

**FORM** Vial containing 50 mg in 0.5ml  
Vial containing 100 mg in 1ml

**INDICATION** Passive prophylaxis for respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)

**DOSE RANGE**

AGE	DOSE	FREQUENCY	ROUTE
Birth – 6 months	15mg/kg Round dose up to nearest 5mg	Once monthly during RSV season (usually October – February for a maximum of 5 doses) Exception= 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose given 3 weeks after 1 <sup>st</sup> dose	IM

**RECONSTITUTION** No reconstitution required – ready to use formulation

**DILUTION** No dilution required  
Dose (ml) = 0.15 x patient weight (kg)

**METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION**

- Administered intramuscularly, preferably in the anterolateral aspect of the thigh. The gluteal muscle should not be used routinely as an injection site because of the risk of damage to the sciatic nerve
- The injection should be given using standard aseptic technique
- Injection volumes over 1 ml should be given as a divided dose

**CAUTIONS, CONTRA-INDICATIONS AND SIDE EFFECTS**  
- See Summary of Product Characteristics and most recent edition of BNF for Children (links below)

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

- Only those babies considered high-risk and eligible should receive palivizumab (annual updates via JCVI/Green Book)
- The exact start and end of RSV season will be dictated by public health on an annual basis and publicised by relevant local teams

**STORAGE** Store in a fridge – do not freeze

**LICENSED STATUS** Licensed use

**LINKS** [BNF for Children:](#) / [Electronic Medicines Compendium](#)

**APPLICABLE POLICIES** [West of Scotland Neonatal Guidelines:](#)

Consult local policy if applicable

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**Administer reconstituted solutions immediately.**  
**All vials, ampoules and infusion bags are for single use only unless otherwise stated.**  
 Dose may vary depending on indication, age, renal function, hepatic function, and concomitant medications.  
 This monograph should be used in conjunction with the package insert, BNF for Children, and Summary of Product Characteristics. For further advice contact your clinical pharmacist or pharmacy department.