NORTH YORK FAMILY HEALTH TEAM

RAPID RX

October 2026

[Abrysvo vs Beyfortus may provide similar protection against RSV in infants]
[Capvaxive vs Prevnar-20]
[Semaglutide shaking things up]
[New NYFHT Pharmacist: Kimberley Vu]

Abrysvo vs Beyfortus may provide similar protection against RSV in infants

- NACI previously advised preference for Beyfortus over Abrysvo for RSV protection in infants[1]
- Updated NACI guidance has since removed this preference[2]
- Real-world effectiveness studies and meta-analyses have shown more comparable vaccine efficacy[2]
  - Beyfortus reduced RSV-related hospitalizations with vaccine efficacy 83%
  - Maternal Abrysvo vaccination reduced infant hospitalizations in range of 57% to 82%[2]
- For those who want an alternative approach to infant injections, Abrysvo vaccination during pregnancy is also an effective option for RSV protection[3]

For this RSV season:

- NYFHT RSV macros will be updated to reflect comparable efficacy
- Offer Abrysvo during pregnancy to protect infants who will be born during RSV season
- Offer Beyfortus to infants born to individuals who did not receive Abrysvo, or infants born less than 2 weeks after Abrysvo administration
- Offer Beyfortus to infants at increased risk of severe RSV disease, regardless if Abrysvo was given during pregnancy

References:
1. NACI (May 2024). Statement on prevention of RSV disease in infants.
2. NACI (April 2026). Updated guidance to protect infants and children from RSV disease.
3. Ontario Ministry of Health (September 28, 2026). Infant and high-risk children RSV prevention program factsheet for HCP.

Capvaxive vs Prevnar-20 for adults age 65+

- NACI recommends **one dose of either Capvaxive or Prevnar-20 to all adults age 65+** regardless of prior pneumococcal vaccination status with Pneumovax23 or Prevnar-13.[1]
- Capvaxive was consistently found to be the optimal strategy in older adults age 65+. Serotypes contained within Capvaxive cause a greater burden of disease compared with those contained within Prevnar-20.[2]
- However, Ontario's publicly funded Capvaxive is limited to adults age 65+ who have never received Pneumovax23 nor Prevnar20 at age 65+; eligibility does not consider the presence of high-risk criteria for invasive pneumococcal disease (except HSCT recipients).
- Capvaxive and Prevnar-20 are also available to purchase via prescription from community pharmacies for patients who are not eligible for publicly funded vaccine but wish to update pneumococcal vaccination per NACI recommendations.

NYFHT pharmacy team (Caddie Sze, Kimberley Vu, Rita Ha)
Fax us at 416-494-8525 Accuro Task the NY Pharmacist group Ocean e-referral for Pharmacy Services

This content is intended for NYFHT healthcare providers and is only up to date based on information available at the time of publication.

References:
1. NACI (accessed October 23, 2026). Pneumococcal vaccines.
2. OAIC (July 2025). Updated recommendations for pneumococcal immunization in adults, including the use of a 21-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine.
3. Ontario Ministry of Health (August 2026). HCP fact sheet: pneumococcal conjugate vaccines for adults aged 18 years and older.

Semaglutide shaking things up

Rybelsus vs Rybelsus – formulation change

Novo Nordisk announced a new updated formulation to Rybelsus

- Updated formulation has improved bioavailability & absorption related to changes in active ingredients allowing lower dose strengths and smaller tablet size while maintaining established clinical profile
- Patients currently taking Rybelsus can switch to the updated formulation
- New prescription will be required

Equivalent Dose Strengths:

Initial Formulation	New formulation
3mg	1.5mg
7mg	4mg
14mg	9mg

Recommended Starting, Escalation and Maintenance of Rybelsus Tablets
Starting Dosage Day 1-30: 1.5mg po daily
Escalation Phase Day 31-60: increase to 4mg po daily
Maintenance Dose Day 61+: maintain at 4mg if no further glycemic control needed, or increase to 9mg po daily if needed

Ozempic vs Semaglutide – generic formulations available

Two new generic semaglutides available from Dr. Reddy and Apotex

- Interchangeable with Ozempic (Semaglutide)
- Comes in Kwik-Pen format as well
- No new prescription required, patients will automatically be offered generic if available
- Cost of generic semaglutide: $100 CAD

References
1. Novo Nordisk Canada (June 9, 2026). Novo Nordisk introduces updated Rybelsus tablet formulation in Canada for adults living with type 2 diabetes.
2. Novo Nordisk. Rybelsus (product monograph).

New NYFHT Pharmacist

- You may see a new pharmacist, Kimberley Vu, answering and signing off on your referrals,
- Kimberley started with us October 2026 and is quickly getting caught up in our primary care family!
- She comes to us with valuable experience in community pharmacy and CareRx long-term care experience.

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