



Date: December 1, 2022

To: Interested Parties

From: Zintars Beldavs, Section Manager
Acute & Communicable Disease Prevention Section

Subject: Notice of Temporary Rulemaking – OAR 333-018-0015, "Reporting of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)-associated deaths in children"

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Public Health Division, is temporarily amending OAR 333-018-0015 to require the reporting of deaths in persons under 18 years of age with laboratory-confirmed respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) infection.

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) is a common seasonal cause of upper respiratory infections, bronchiolitis and pneumonia. An estimated 2.6% of infants in the United States are hospitalized because of RSV. Annually among children <5 years of age in the United States, RSV hospitalizes about 58,000 and kills 100–500. No vaccine is currently available to prevent RSV infection, but the monoclonal antibody palivizumab can prevent severe RSV illness in infants and children at high risk for severe disease—particularly infants born prematurely or with congenital heart disease or chronic lung disease. RSV is not currently reportable in Oregon; as is the case with influenza, the Oregon Health Authority does not have the resources to track all cases of RSV. Temporary amendments to OAR 333-018-0015 will make RSV-associated deaths in children reportable to enable understanding of risk factors—including demographic, clinical, and preventive care—for this most serious of outcomes.

This temporary rule is effective December 1, 2022 through May 29, 2023.

For more details, please see the Temporary Administrative Order, including the Statement of Need and Justification and the full text of the temporary rules at the following website:

www.healthoregon.org/diseasereporting

If you have any questions or would prefer to be sent a hard copy, please send an email to publichealth.rules@odhsoha.oregon.gov.