

February 5, 2024

## Celebrate Black History Month with CDPH

February is Black History Month, honoring the contributions and accomplishments of Black and African Americans. Celebrate with us by promoting Black health and wellness.



### Vaccination Rates Among Black Californians

[RSV](#), [COVID-19](#), and Influenza (flu) vaccination rates remain low among Black and African Americans, leaving many vulnerable Californians at risk for severe disease or hospitalization. Please refer to the supportive resources below.

### RSV Resources

RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) infections are most severe in infants and older adults. As Black and African Americans are at elevated risk for [premature births](#), [chronic heart disease](#) and [lung diseases such as asthma](#), it is especially important to protect them against RSV.

You can help by continuing year-round administration of privately purchased RSV vaccines to adults aged 60 years and older. These vaccines protect older adults for at least 2 years. In addition, administer remaining supplies of nirsevimab to eligible infants and toddlers.

Use of nirsevimab is summarized in this [infographic](#). More information about late season prevention of RSV can be found in this [communication](#).

Thank you for your continued efforts to protect and support the Black and African American community, including encouraging vaccinations such as RSV, COVID-19, and Flu.

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## Resource Highlight: Black Infant Health Program

The [CDPH Black Infant Health \(BIH\) program](#) empowers Black mothers with the goals of improving infant and maternal health, thereby decreasing inequities in infant and maternal mortality rates. Program services can be located in [this directory](#).

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## Other Respiratory Illness Prevention Resources:

- Shot by Shot Campaign: [Meligha's COVID-19 Vaccine PSA](#)
  - Webinar - Black Communities and COVID-19 Vaccines: Respectful and Caring Communications [Recording](#) and [Slides](#)
  - [The Definitions of Equity, Equality, and Justice](#)
  - [Tuskegee Legacy Stories](#)
  - [EZIZ RSV resources page for providers and patients](#)
  - [RSV FAQs page](#)
  - [Nirsevimab Infographic for Providers](#)
  - [CDC guidance for infants, pregnant persons, older adults](#)
  - [Shared clinical decision-making for older adults receiving the RSV vaccine](#)
  - [Winter Immunizations \(flu, COVID-19, and RSV\)](#)
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