Respiratory Syncytial Virus, or RSV, is a common, seasonal virus that is contracted by nearly 100 percent of infants by the age two. There’s no better time than National RSV Awareness Month this October to learn about the signs and symptoms of RSV disease—the leading cause of hospitalization for babies in the US during their first year of life. As you prepare to keep your baby safe and warm this season, know the facts about how to help protect their little lungs, too!

All babies are at risk for RSV, which often presents with symptoms similar to the common cold or flu, and typically circulates between November and March, but it can be much more serious in high-risk infants. Severe RSV disease can cause up to 125,000 infant hospitalizations and around 200 infant deaths in the US each year.

Potential signs of severe RSV disease that parents should not ignore include:

- Persistent coughing or wheezing
- Fast or troubled breathing
- Bluish color around the mouth or fingernails
- Fever (especially if it is over 100.4° in infants under 3 months of age [rectal])

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What common symptoms should I look out for?

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How can I help prevent RSV disease?

- Visit www.RSVprotection.com to learn more about RSV disease and how to help keep your child’s little lungs healthy this RSV season!

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