

Background

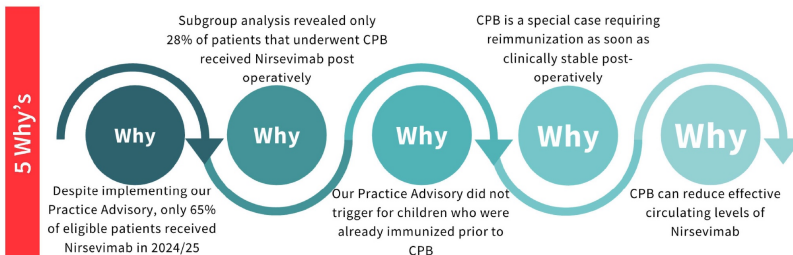
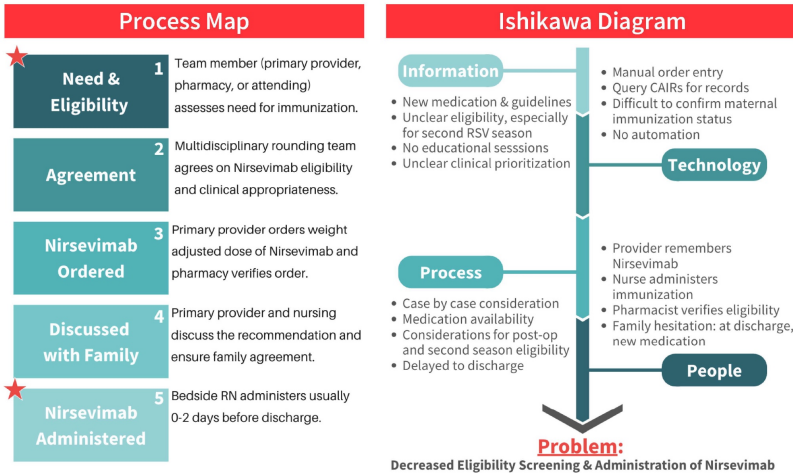
- Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) is a leading cause of hospitalization in infants.
- Congenital heart disease (CHD) patients admitted with RSV infection have increased length of stay, healthcare costs, and rates of mechanical ventilation.
- Nirsevimab monoclonal antibody was introduced in October 2023, and compared to palivizumab, it conferred more effective and longer lasting RSV immunity.

Problem Statement In the 2023/24 RSV season, only **50%** of eligible patients received Nirsevimab while admitted to the Acute Cardiac Care Unit (ACCU).

SMART Goal

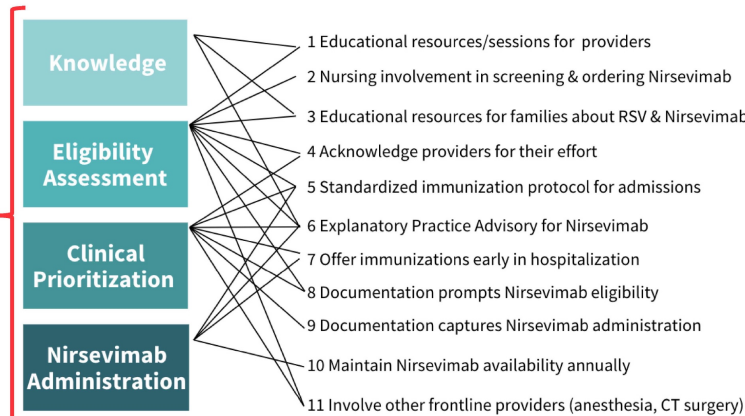
Sustainably increase Nirsevimab immunization from baseline of 50% to >75% in eligible ACCU patients by the 2025/26 RSV season.

Current State Analysis

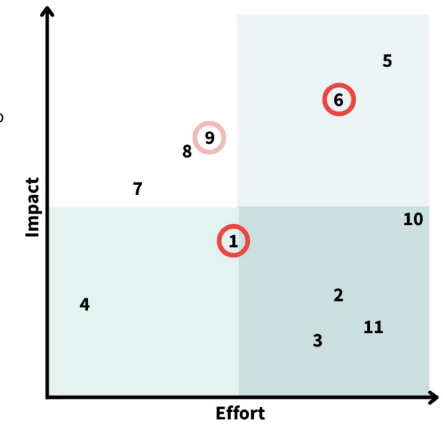


Root Cause Analysis

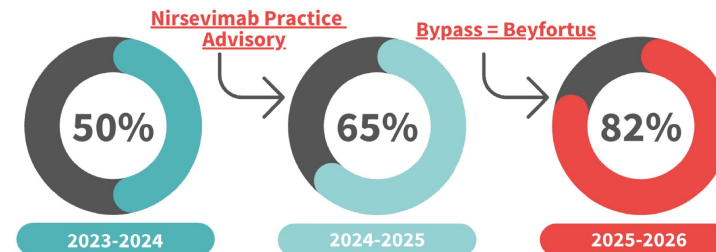
Key Driver Diagram



Impact vs Effort



Evaluate



Sustain & Expand

The primary goal is to **sustain** high rates of Nirsevimab immunization in ACCU patients to prevent RSV complications, hospitalizations, and morbidity.

Our broader goal is to **expand** this initiative to leverage inpatient admissions as pivotal opportunities to offer immunizations in medically complex children and reduce the incidence of preventable illness.

Next Steps:

- Short Term**: Complete 2025/26 season analysis, extended to 4/31/26
- Long Term**: Protocolize all childhood immunization screening and administration hospital wide. To assist this, the ACCU discharge summary template now prompts documentation of **ALL** immunizations given inpatient

Measures

- Outcome**: % of eligible patients immunized
- Process**: % of appropriate Nirsevimab orders
- Balancing**: unindicated immunization (0)

Subgroup Analysis

- Despite improved 65% Nirsevimab immunization rate in 2024/25 RSV season, only **28%** of infants <8 months old were **reimmunized** after cardiopulmonary bypass. This inspired an education focused PDSA cycle.
- Equity**: There was no significant difference in immunization rates based on parent spoken language or insurance provider.

References

- Drysdale SB, Cathie K, Flamein F, et al. Nirsevimab for Prevention of Hospitalizations Due to RSV in Infants. *N Engl J Med*. 2023;389(26):2425-2435.
- Esposito S, Aurelio C, Cifaldi M, Lazzara A, Viafora F, Principi N. Prevention of Respiratory Infections in Children with Congenital Heart Disease: Current Evidence and Clinical Strategies. *Vaccines (Basel)*. 2025;14(1):11.
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