

# Symptom Checker



**Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)** is a common virus that can cause respiratory illness in infants. RSV affects 90% of children by the age of two, equivalent to approximately two million children in the UK.<sup>1,2,3,4,5</sup>

Most RSV infections in babies are mild and will typically clear up within a few weeks on their own.<sup>6</sup> However, some infections can be more serious and hospital care may be needed.<sup>1</sup> So, it's important that parents, expectant parents and caregivers are aware of the symptoms.

## Symptoms of RSV-related illness include:

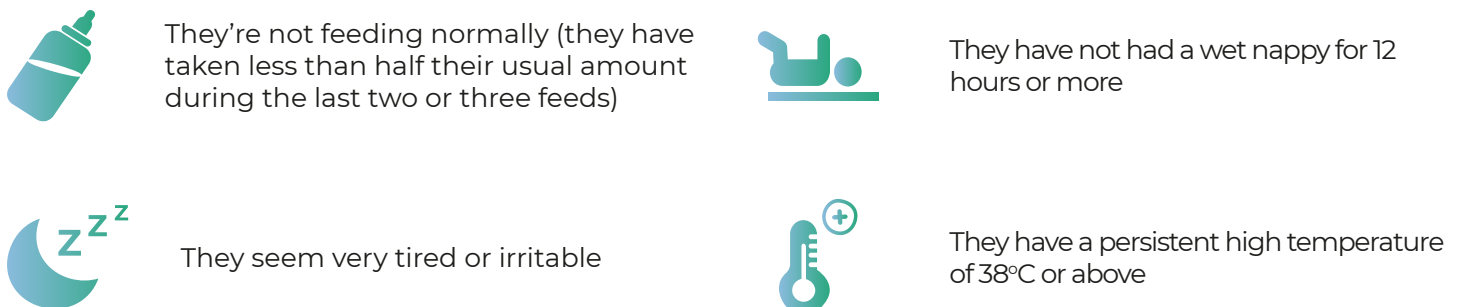


## Bronchiolitis, pneumonia and croup are examples of severe illnesses that can be caused by RSV.<sup>1,7</sup> Here are the symptoms to look out for:

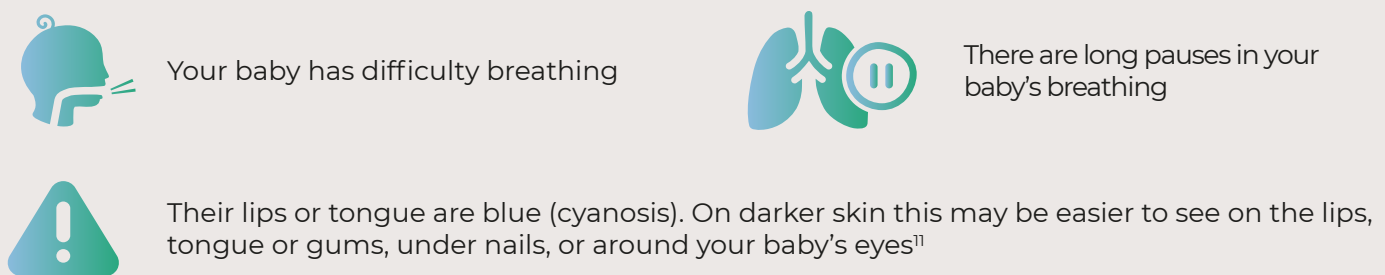
Bronchiolitis <sup>6</sup>	Pneumonia <sup>8</sup>	Croup <sup>9</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Difficulty breathing</b></li><li>• <b>Similar symptoms to those seen with a common cold, e.g. runny nose and a cough</b></li><li>• <b>Symptoms may develop to include:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>A fever</b></li><li>• <b>Dry persistent cough</b></li><li>• <b>Wheezing</b></li><li>• <b>Difficulty feeding</b></li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Cough</b></li><li>• <b>Rapid heartbeat</b></li><li>• <b>High temperature</b></li><li>• <b>Difficulty breathing</b></li><li>• <b>Loss of appetite or difficulty feeding</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>A barking cough that sounds similar to a seal</b></li><li>• <b>A hoarse voice</b></li><li>• <b>Breathing difficulty</b></li><li>• <b>A rasping sound when drawing breath in</b></li><li>• <b>Croup often begins with cold-like symptoms which can worsen at night</b></li></ul>
<a href="#">Find out more about bronchiolitis on the NHS website here</a>	<a href="#">Find out more about pneumonia on the NHS website here</a>	<a href="#">Find out more about croup on the NHS website here</a>

**Call your GP or 111 if you have any questions or concerns.**

**You should also refer to the NHS guidance and contact your GP if you are worried about your baby's symptoms, or notice the following:<sup>10</sup>**



**Although not common, sometimes symptoms can become severe quickly and more urgent help is needed. The NHS recommends that you call 999 if you notice that:<sup>10</sup>**



For more information about RSV and the *Together Against RSV* campaign, visit [www.togetheragainstrsv.com](http://www.togetheragainstrsv.com)

## References

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