



# Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)

## Why in News?

Recently, in a study it was found that the lower respiratory infections caused by the **Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)** are more frequent in children under the age of five.

- According to a report published by the **Lancet**, it is responsible for the death of 1,00,000 children in the world during the year 2019.

## What is the Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)?

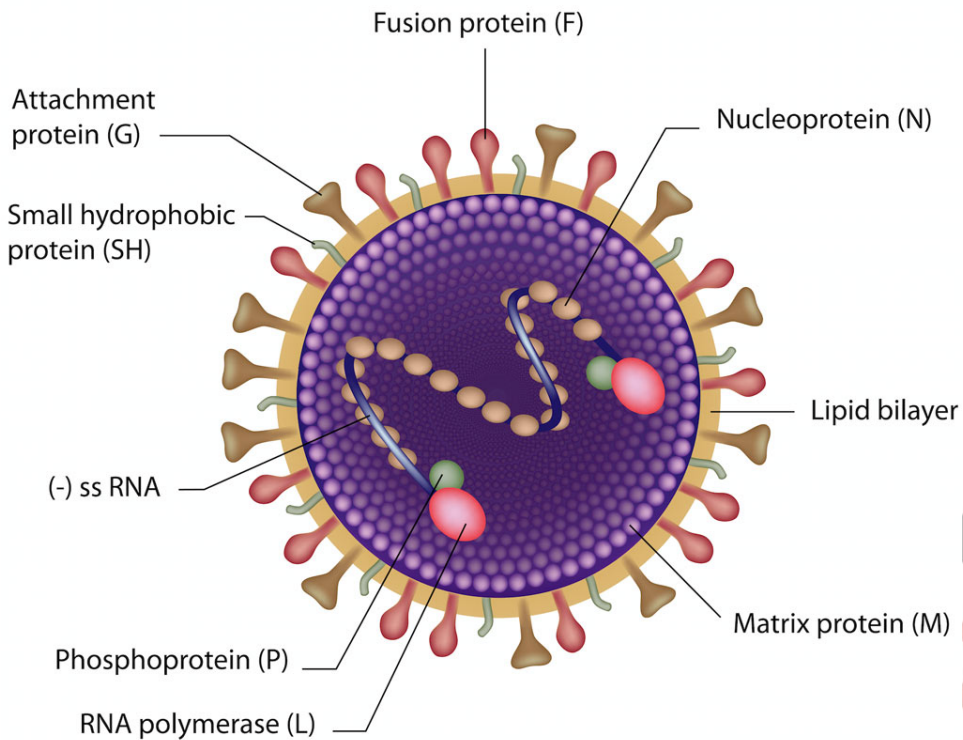
### ▪ About:

- **Respiratory Syncytial Virus** is a common respiratory virus.
- It is characterized by its **highly contagious nature** i.e., it has a high potential to infect people.
- It exacerbated the seasonal lung infection.
- It commonly infects children especially under **2 to 6 years** of age.
- In most of the cases it has symptoms like the **common cold** but in advanced stages it converts into **pneumonia** and **bronchiolitis**.

### ▪ Key Findings:

- In the year 2019, over **45000 infant fatalities** under the **age of six** were reported.
- One child out of every **five RSV infected children** died in the entire world.
- Children **six months and younger** are most vulnerable to this virus.
- According to the research, the **annual incidence rate** in India is **53 per 1,000 children (5.3%)**, with an estimated **61,86,500 cases of RSV associated with acute lower respiratory infection** in children under the **age of five**.
  - **RSV killed 97 percent** of children under the **age of five in low- and middle-income nations**.

# Respiratory Syncytial Virus



## What is the Cure for Respiratory Syncytial Virus?

- There is no reliable cure available for RSV infection.
- Scientists, Government and concerning authority are promoting research and development in this domain to find out appropriate medicine and vaccination to save the life of infants and children.

**Source: IE**

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