

# Economics of Vaccinating U.S. Adults $\geq 60$ years-old against Respiratory Syncytial Virus

A SUMMARY REPORT COMPARING MODELS FROM:

*GSK, Pfizer AND University of Michigan-CDC*

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NCIRD/CDC

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**Disclaimer:** *The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.*

# Conflict of interest

- **GSK model:** Daniel Molnar et al., [complete list and affiliations, upon request]
  - GSK manufactures the adjuvanted RSVPreF3 vaccine
  - RTI Health Solutions was funded by GSK
- **Pfizer model:** Derek Weycker et al., [complete list and affiliations, upon request]
  - Pfizer manufactures the bivalent RSVpreF vaccine
  - Policy Analysis Inc. was funded by Pfizer
- **UM-CDC model:** David W Hutton et al. from Univ Michigan, ..., ***Ismael R Ortega-Sanchez et al.*** from CDC [complete author list and affiliations, upon request ]
  - All authors: No conflicts of interest

# Economic analysis

**Policy questions:** Should adults  $\geq 60$  years of age (or  $\geq 65$  years of age) receive one dose of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) vaccine (GSK or Pfizer product) for the prevention of RSV disease and its complications?

**Question:** Is vaccinating adults aged  $\geq 65$  years (or  $\geq 60$  years) against RSV *cost-effective*?

## Comparator

Unvaccinated  
 $\geq 65$ yr-olds  
(or  $\geq 60$ yr-olds)



## Intervention

Vaccinating  
 $\geq 65$ yr-olds  
(or  $\geq 60$ yr-olds)

**Base-case scenario:** What is the incremental *cost-effectiveness* of vaccinating adults aged  $\geq 65$  years (or  $\geq 60$  years) using RSV vaccine relative to “No vaccination”?

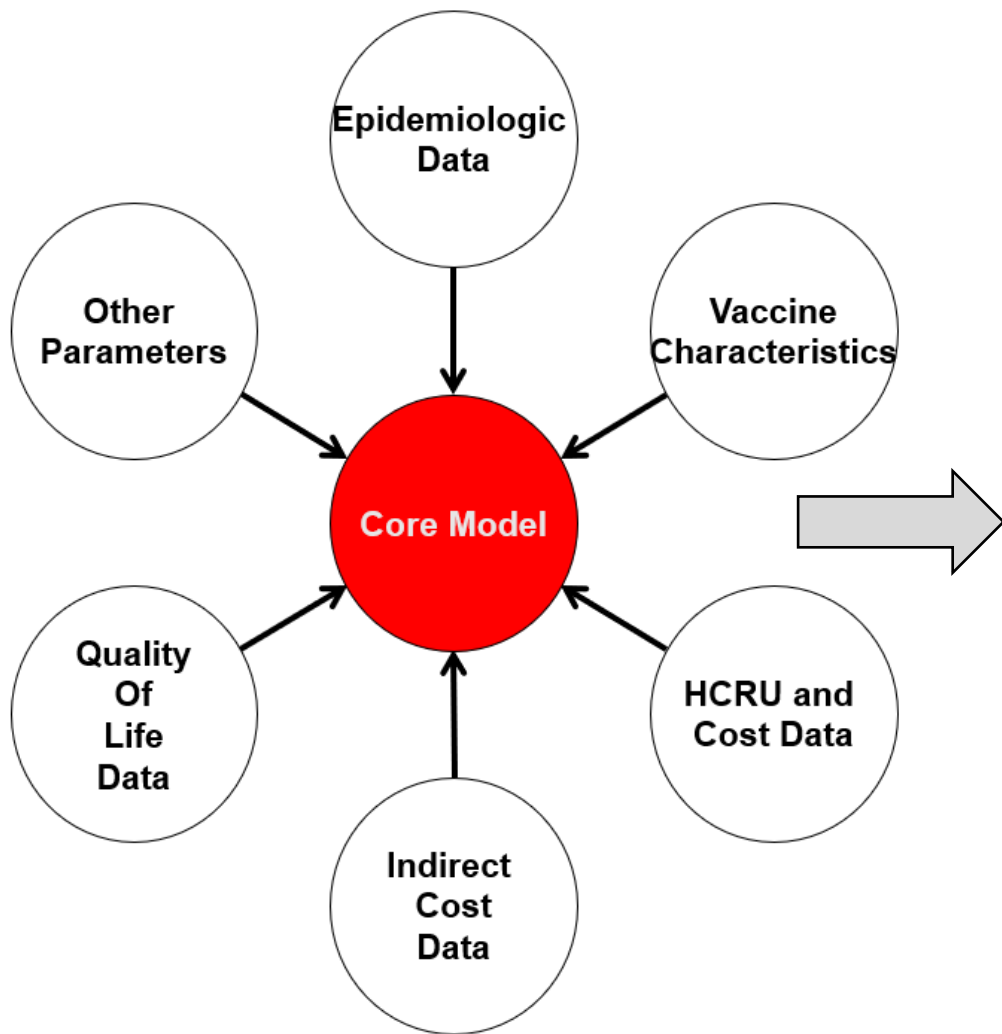
# Focus on key features for model comparison

- Modeling approach
  - Targeted population(s)
  - Perspective (healthcare vs. societal)
  - Intervention strategy and comparator
- Inputs for RSV disease burden, vaccine efficacy, and costs
  - Incidence of RSV disease, rates of outcomes
  - Direct and Indirect costs of RSV disease
  - Intervention: Vaccine efficacy, duration of protection, safety and program costs
- Assumptions
  - Strong, influential assumptions

# Modeling design and assumptions

	GSK	Pfizer	UM-CDC
Static analytical decision-making models	✓	✓	✓
Sensitivity analyses (and probabilistic simulation)	✓(✓)	✓(✓)	✓
Hypothetical population ≥65yrs-old (and ≥60-yrs-old)	✓(✓)	✓(✓)	✓(✓)
Time Frame: at least 1 yr. after a dose of RSV vaccine	✓	✓	✓
Analytic Horizon: Age-specific Life Expectancy	✓	✓	✓
Discount rate: 3%	✓	✓	✓
Year of economic outcomes measured: 2022	✓	✓	✓
Societal perspective (and healthcare perspective)	✓(✓)	✓(✓)	✓(✓)

# Inputs and main outcomes



Prevention of:

- Outpatient visits for RSV
- RSV hospitalizations
- RSV-associated deaths

GSK	Pfizer	UM-CDC
✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓

QALYs saved  
\$/QALY saved

✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓

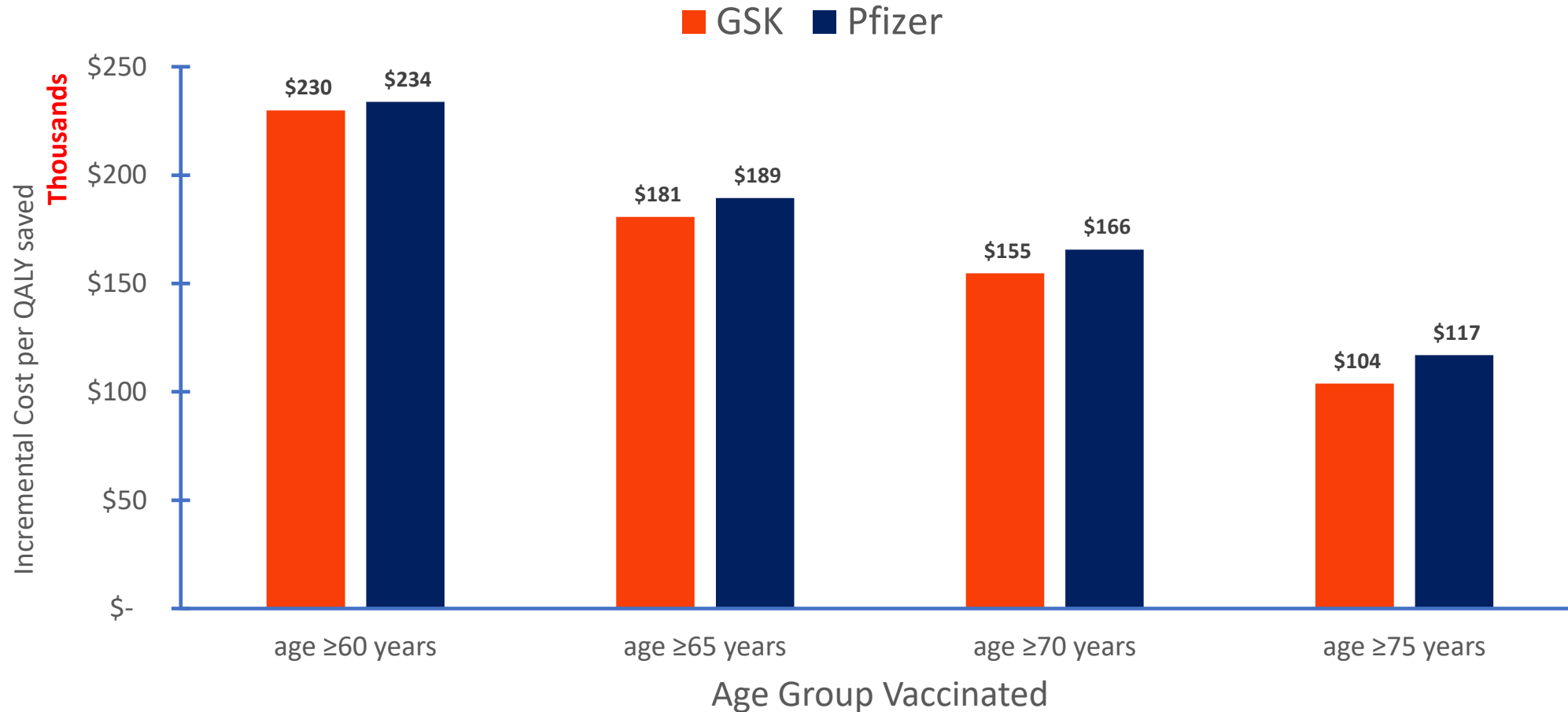
Number needed to vaccinate (NNV) to avert an:

- Outpatient visit for RSV
- RSV hospitalization
- RSV-associated death

✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓

HCRU = health care resource use

# UMich-CDC: Scenario analysis for age group, \$100 vaccine cost and vaccine candidate



# GSK, Pfizer and UM-CDC models comparison: Selected outcome ratios for RSV vaccines

## GSK vaccine

	<b>UM-CDC model Vac Price \$100</b>	<b>GSK model Vac Price \$148</b>
<b>\$ / QALY gained</b>		
<b>Vaccinating adults ≥65 yrs.</b>	<b>180,720</b>	<b>68,489</b>
<b>Vaccinating adults ≥60 yrs.</b>	<b>229,895</b>	<b>78,971</b>
<b>\$ / hospitalization averted</b>		
<b>Vaccinating adults ≥65 yrs.</b>	<b>101,406</b>	<b>57,114</b>
<b>Vaccinating adults ≥60 yrs.</b>	<b>133,992</b>	<b>69,638</b>

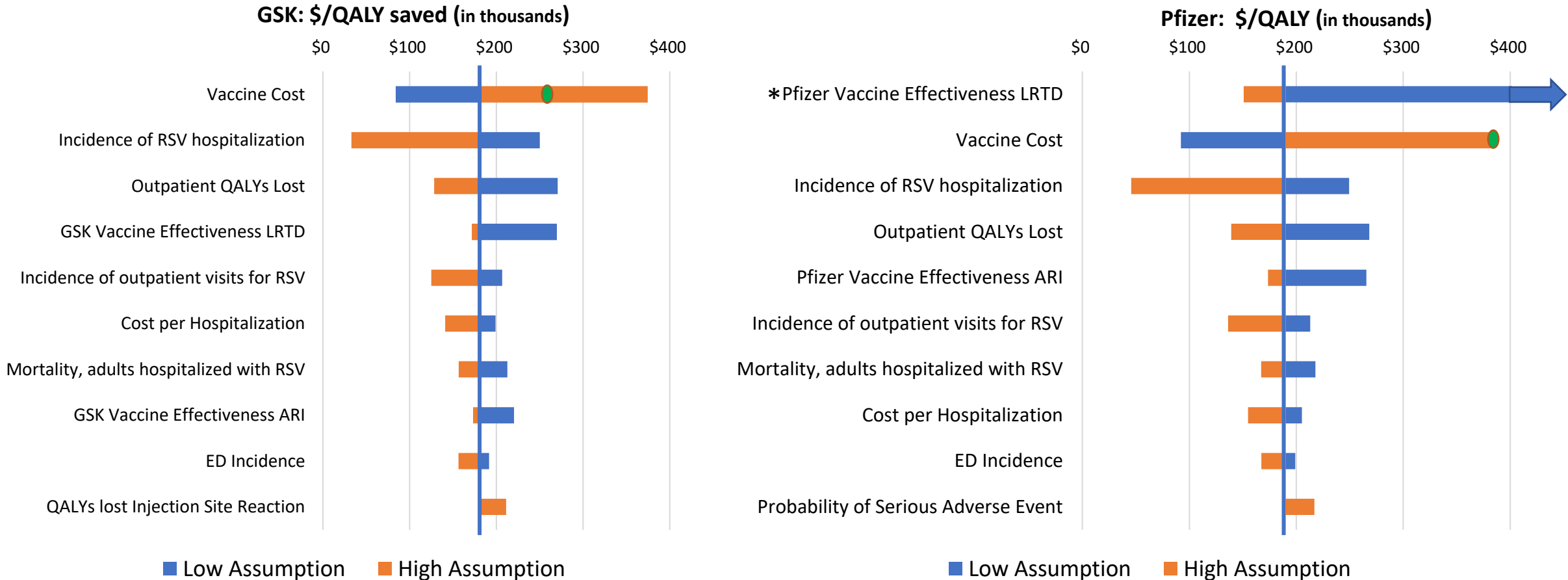
## Pfizer vaccine

	<b>UM-CDC model Vac Price \$100</b>	<b>Pfizer model Vac Price \$200</b>
<b>\$ / QALY gained</b>		
<b>Vaccinating adults ≥65 yrs.</b>	<b>189,407</b>	<b>43,749</b>
<b>Vaccinating adults ≥60 yrs.</b>	<b>233,779</b>	<b>50,197</b>
<b>\$ / hospitalization averted</b>		
<b>Vaccinating adults ≥65 yrs.</b>	<b>122,886</b>	<b>19,845</b>
<b>Vaccinating adults ≥60 yrs.</b>	<b>161,310</b>	<b>23,271</b>



# UM-CDC model: One-way Sensitivity Analyses

Base case: Age  $\geq 65$  yrs \$180,720/QALY (GSK), \$189,407/QALY (Pfizer)

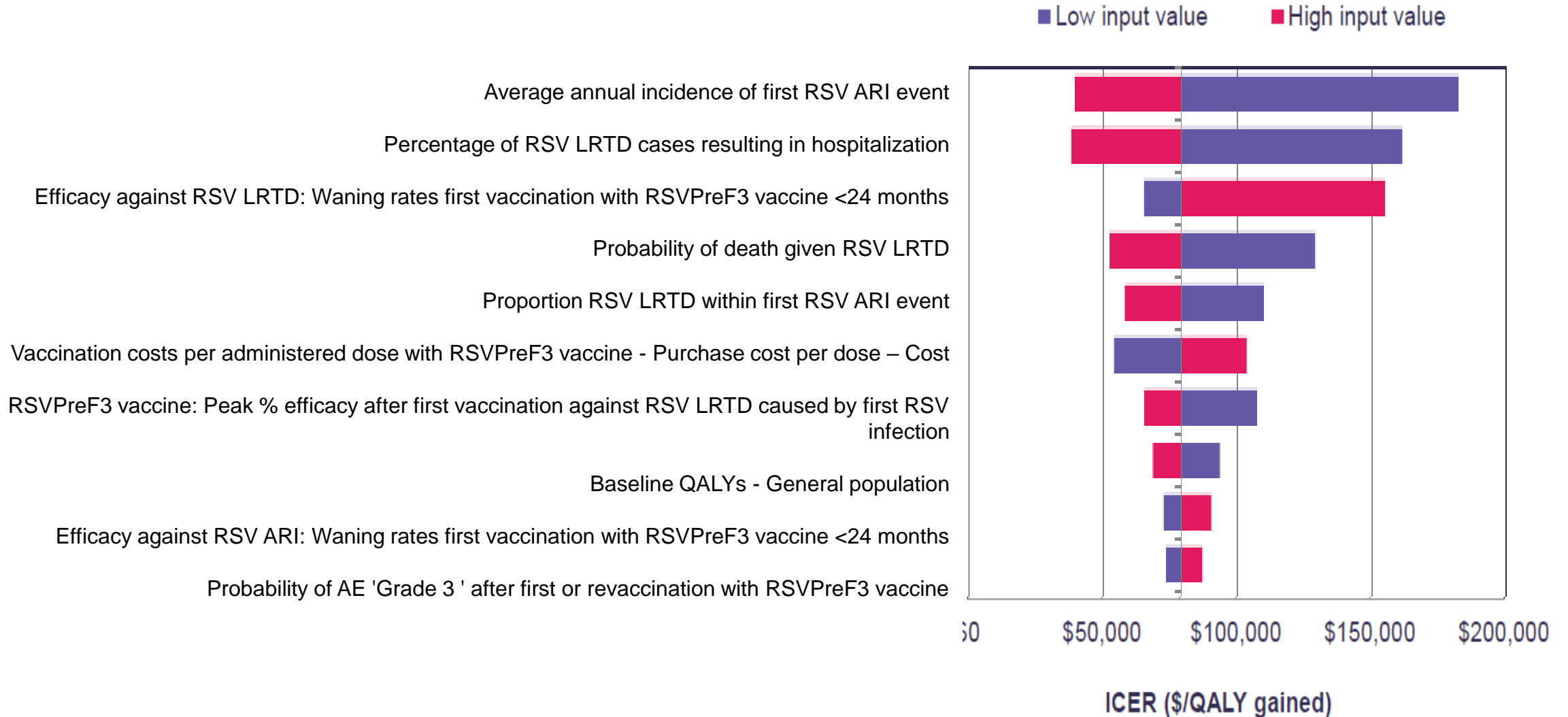


One Year Time Horizon

\* At lower bound of Pfizer vaccine efficacy (VE =6.3%), the ICER rises to >\$574 Thousand /QALY

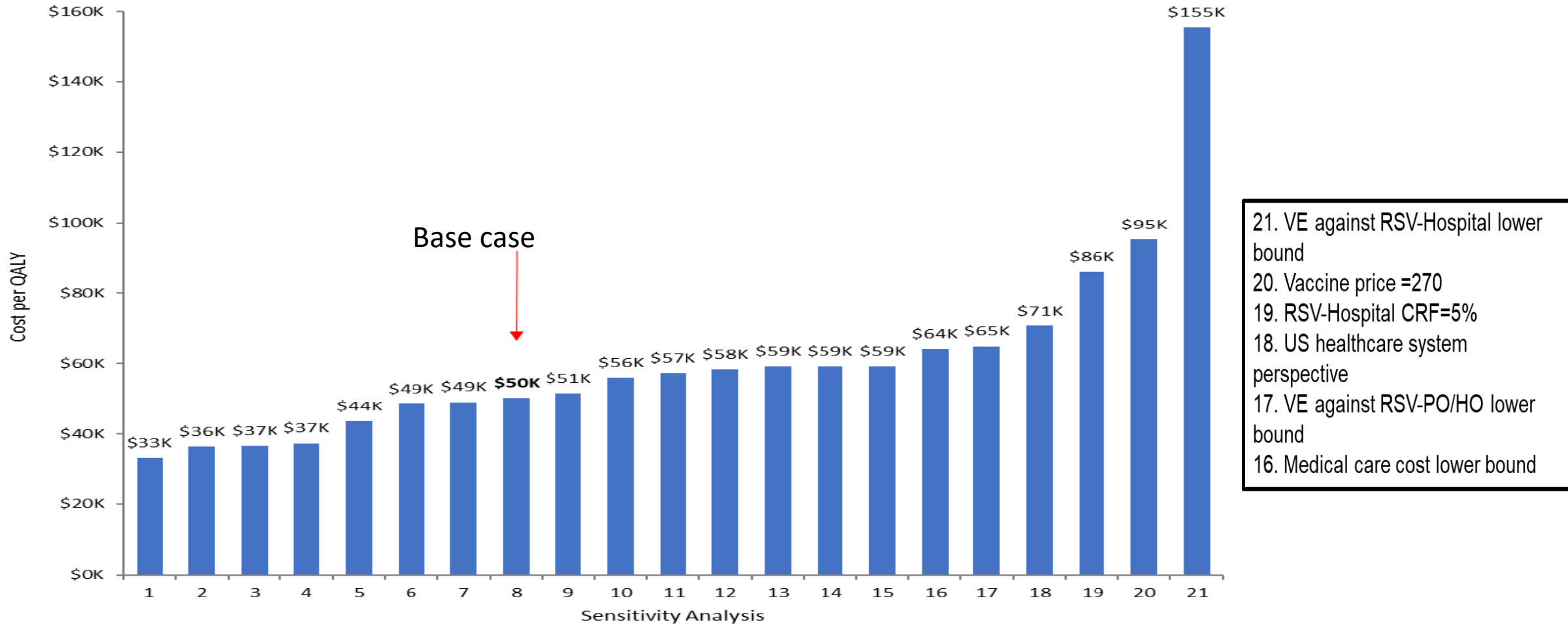
# GSK model: One-way Sensitivity Analyses

Base case: Age  $\geq 60$  years; \$ 78,971 /QALY saved



# Pfizer model: One-way Sensitivity Analyses

Base case: Age  $\geq 60$  years: \$50,104/QALY saved



# GSK, Pfizer and UM-CDC models comparison: Selected inputs

- RSV-hospitalization rate
  - GSK:** Proportion of MA RSV hospitalized cases identified by PCR, differentiated by age (Belongia, 2018)
  - Pfizer:** Differentiated by age and comorbidity profile (Pfizer data on file)
  - CDC:** Differentiated by age (four RSV seasons in CDC RSV-NET data)
- Unitary medical cost of RSV outcomes
  - **GSK:** Age- & outcome specific cost for symptomatic RSV LRTD & URTI cases (MA and non-MA) (CMS)
  - **Pfizer:** Age-, outcome- & comorbidity-specific cost for MA RSV
  - **CDC:** Age- & outcome-specific cost for MA RSV
- Initial VE & waning over time
  - GSK:** Phase 3, monthly waning: ARI (5.36%), LRTD (2.63%) until 12mos, then to 0%
  - Pfizer:** Phase 3, flat 7mos, then linear decay to 0% at 24mos
  - CDC:** GSK's & Pfizer's phase 3, flat 6mos, exponential decay until 12mos, then to 0%

# GSK, Pfizer and UM-CDC models: Key differences in model inputs

	UM-CDC	GSK	Pfizer
Incidence of RSV outpatient illness (per 100,000 persons per year)	1,519 (base-case for adults ≥65 years) <sup>a</sup>	1,348 (for adults ≥65 years) <sup>b</sup>	2,430 (base case for adults ≥65 years) <sup>c</sup>
Incidence of RSV hospitalization (per 100,000 persons per year)	108 (base-case for adults ≥65 years) <sup>d</sup>	256 (for adults ≥65 years) <sup>b,e</sup>	300 (base-case for adults ≥65 years) <sup>c</sup>
Direct medical costs per RSV hospitalization	\$20,330 – \$21,339 (age-dependent) <sup>f</sup>	\$13,112 – \$26,224 (age-dependent) <sup>g,h</sup>	\$12,048 – \$38,380 (age- and comorbidity-dependent) <sup>h,i</sup>

a McLaughlin et al. Open Forum Infect Dis (2022): <https://doi.org/10.1093/ofid/ofac300>; unadjusted for under-detection of RT-PCR testing

b Adapted from Belongia et al. Open Forum Infect Dis (2018): <https://doi.org/10.1093/ofid/ofy316>

c McLaughlin et al. Open Forum Infect Dis (2022): <https://doi.org/10.1093/ofid/ofac300>; Ramirez et al. (under review)

d RSV-NET, CDC unpublished data

e Adapted from Falsey et al. NEJM (2005): <https://doi.org/10.1056/nejmoa043951>; Herring et al. Vaccine (2022): <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.vaccine.2021.12.002>

f Ackerson et al. J Infect Dis (2020): <https://doi.org/10.1093/infdis/jiaa183>

g CMS Medicare Inpatient Hospitals (DRG Average Payments from 2019 dataset)

h Kaiser Family Foundation (How much more than Medicare do private insurers pay? 2020): <https://www.kff.org/medicare/issue-brief/how-much-more-than-medicare-do-private-insurers-pay-a-review-of-the-literature/>

i Merative MarketScan Commercial Claims and Encounters (CAAE) and Medicare Supplemental Coordination of Benefits (MDCR) Databases (2016-2019)

# GSK model: Sensitivity of Cost per QALY saved to RSV-Related Hospitalization Rates among Adults $\geq 60$ years

**S8:** Branche et al. (2022b; high BoD season [New York City, 2018-2019]);

**S9:** Branche et al. (2022b; low BoD season [Rochester, 2019-2020]);

**S10:** Zheng et al. (2022; low SES);

**S11:** Zheng et al. (2022; medium SES);

**S12:** Zheng et al. (2022; high SES);

**S13:** McLaughlin et al. (2022; unadjusted);

**S14:** McLaughlin et al. (2022; adjusted);

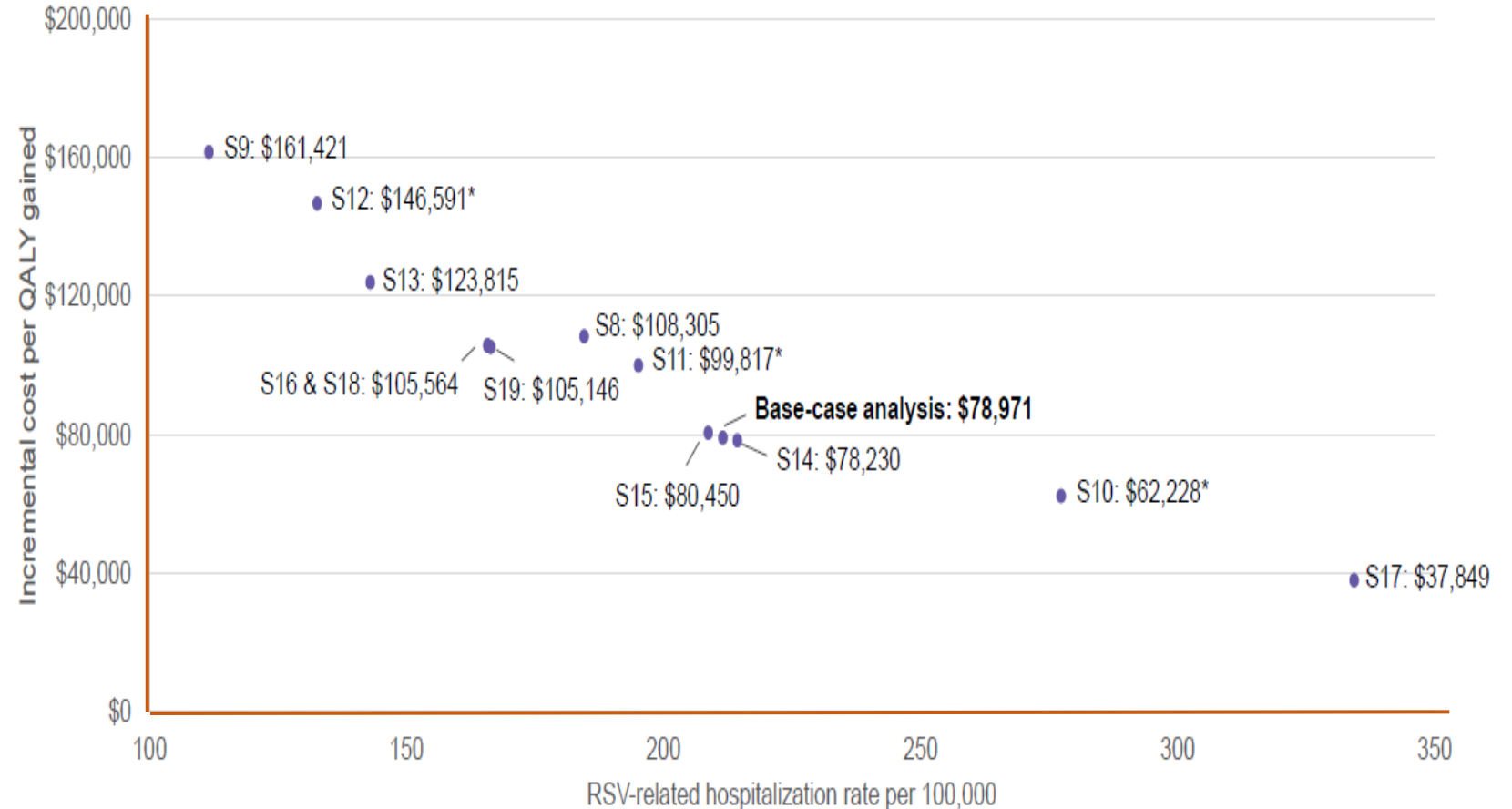
**S15:** Widmer et al. (2012);

**S16:** Herring et al. (2022; Belongia et al. [2018] estimate);

**S17:** Herring et al. (2022; Falsey et al. [2005] estimate);

**S18:** DeMartino et al. (2022);

**S19:** Fust et al. (2022a and 2022b).



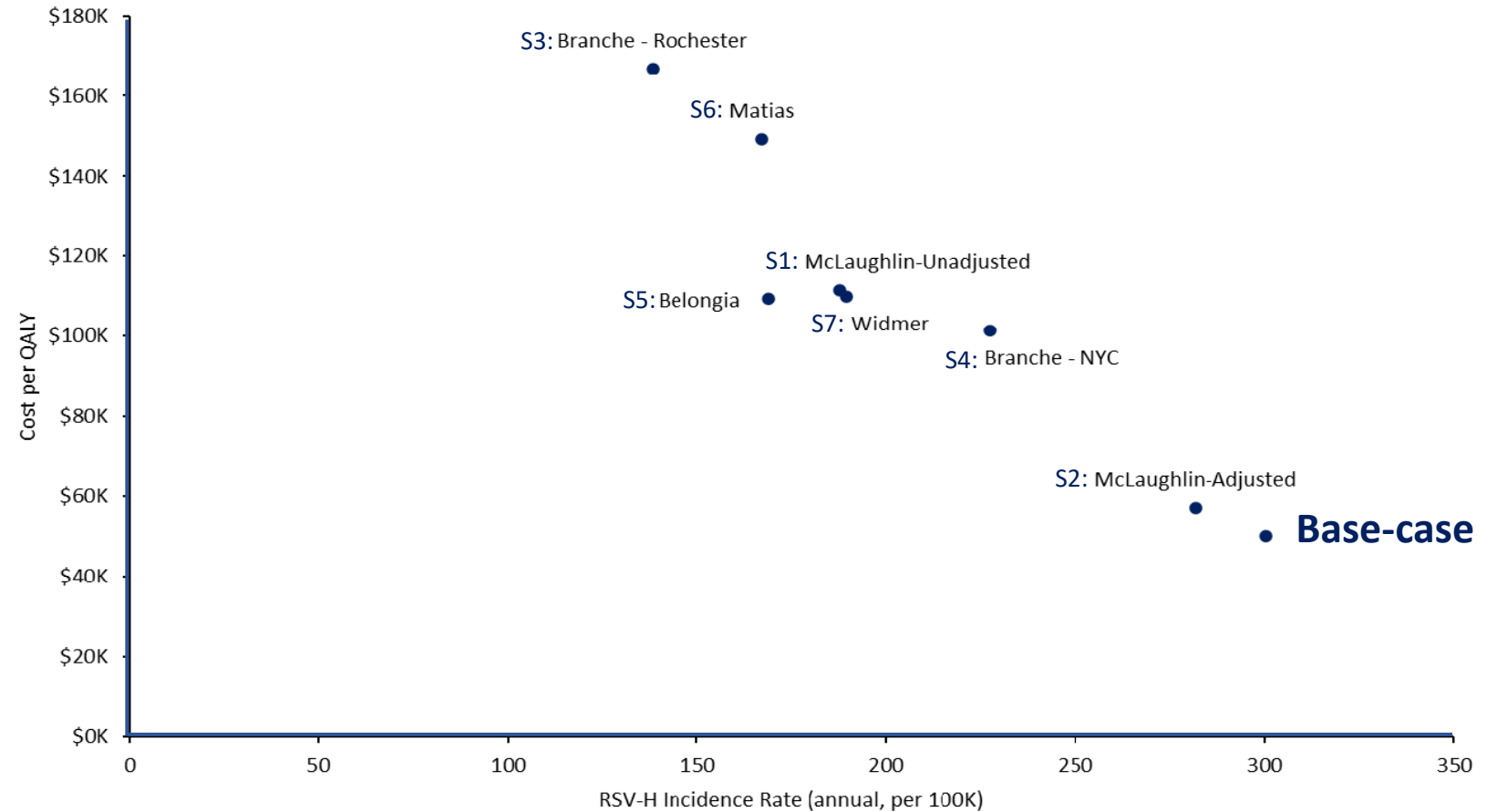
Note: BoD = burden of disease; SES = socioeconomic status.

\* Derived from GSK modeling results.

# Pfizer model: Sensitivity of Cost per QALY saved to RSV-Related Hospitalization Rates among Adults $\geq 60$ years

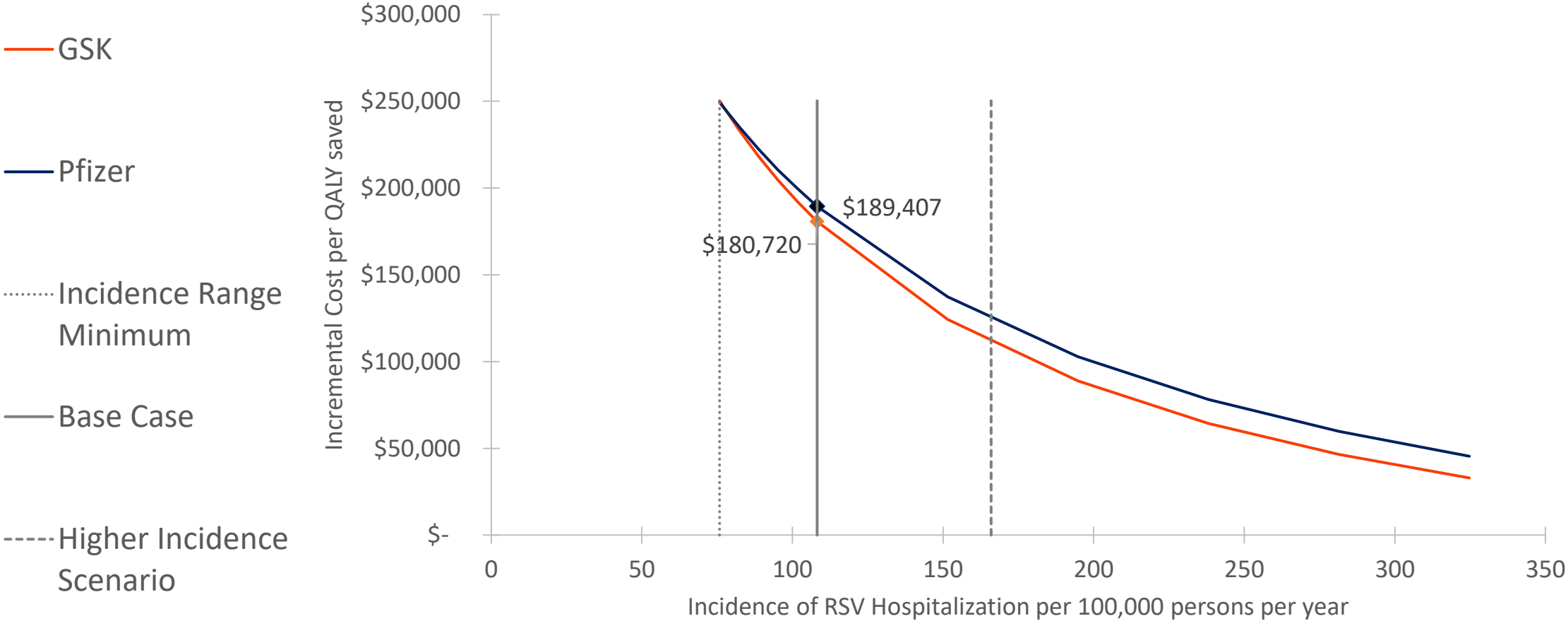
- **S1:** Pooled *unadjusted* rates from McLaughlin et al. (active prospective surveillance studies only)<sup>1</sup>
- **S2:** Based on pooled *adjusted* rates from McLaughlin et al. 1.5-fold (active prospective surveillance studies only)<sup>1</sup>
- **S3:** Rates in Rochester, NY, averaged across all study years, from Branche et al.<sup>2</sup>
- **S4:** Rates in New York, NY, averaged across all study years, from Branche et al.<sup>2</sup>
- **S5:** Rates averaged across all study years and accounting for the *proportion of RSV-confirmed cases* treated in hospital from Belongia et al.<sup>3</sup>
- **S6:** Rates based on Matias et al.<sup>4</sup>
- **S7:** Rates based on Widmer et al.<sup>5</sup>

**Base Case: Ongoing unvetted prospective study with adjusted RSV detection rates of 1.6- to 1.7-fold. Pfizer Inc. data on file**



1. McLaughlin JM, et al. *Open Forum Infectious Diseases*. 9(7), 2022
2. Branche AR et al. *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. 2021;74(6):1004-1011.
3. Belongia et al. *Open Forum Infect Dis*. 2018;5(12):ofy316.
4. Matias et al. *BMC Public Health*. 2017;17(1):271.
5. Widmer et al. *Influenza and Other Respiratory Viruses*. 2014;8(3):347-352.

# UM-CDC model: Sensitivity of Cost per QALY saved to RSV-Related Hospitalization Rates among Adults $\geq 65$ years



**Base case:** mean value of the burden adjusted rate over RSV seasons: 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, and 2018-19. Adjusted rate for 95% sensitivity of PCR testing. CDC RSVnet  
**Lower bound:** mean of lower confidence limit estimates across all 4 seasons assuming 95% sensitivity of PCR testing.  
**Upper bound:** mean of upper confidence limit estimates across all 4 seasons assuming 71% sensitivity of PCR testing.



# GSK, Pfizer and UM-CDC: Initial or Early Peak of Vaccine Efficacy

	UM-CDC		GSK	Pfizer
	GSK vaccine	Pfizer vaccine		
Vaccine efficacy (VE) against RSV outpatient illness <sup>a</sup>	79.0 (54.3–91.5) <sup>b</sup>	69.2 (30.0–88.0) <sup>b</sup>	71.7 (56.7–82.3) <sup>c</sup>	69.2 (30.0–88.0) <sup>b</sup>
VE against RSV hospitalization and emergency department visit <sup>a</sup>	87.5 (58.4–96.2) <sup>d</sup>	80.0 (6.3–97.9) <sup>d</sup>	82.6 (57.9–94.1) <sup>e</sup>	85.7 (37.9–98.4) <sup>e</sup>

a VE over mean 6–7 months of follow up in phase 3 clinical trials

b Manufacturer phase 3 trial data; VE against medically attended acute respiratory illness

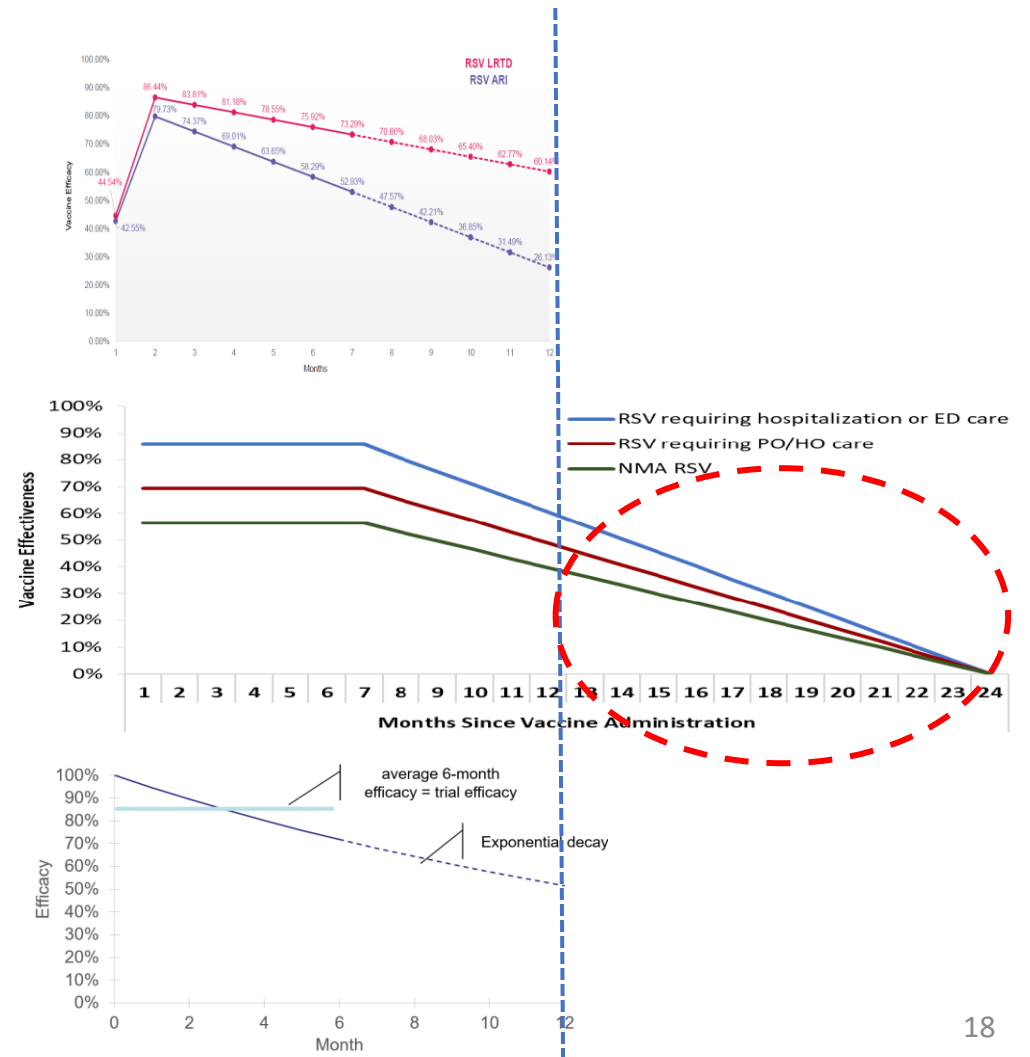
c GSK phase 3 trial data; [IDWeek abstract](#); VE against acute respiratory illness, regardless of whether medically attended

d Manufacturer phase 3 trial data; GSK: VE against medically attended lower respiratory tract disease; Pfizer: VE against medically attended lower respiratory tract illness with ≥3 lower respiratory symptoms

e Manufacturer phase 3 trial data; GSK: [IDWeek abstract](#) VE against lower respiratory tract disease, regardless of whether medically attended; Pfizer: [IDWeek abstract](#) VE against lower respiratory tract illness with ≥3 lower respiratory symptoms, regardless of whether medically attended (95% CI applied)

# GSK, Pfizer and UM-CDC: Assumption on waning of vaccine efficacy (VE) per outcome

<b>GSK</b>	<p>VE peaks at 2 months then wanes per month          RSV-ARI = 5.36% points per month (range: 0.00-13.37%)          RSV-LRTD = 2.63% points per month (range: 0.00-10.95%)          No residual protection after 12 months</p>
<b>Pfizer</b>	<p>Initial VE assumed to persist for 7 months,          Then to decline linearly to 0% effectiveness at 24 months          Residual though declining protection up to 24 months</p>
<b>UM-CDC</b>	<p>Vaccine and outcome-specific          For both vaccines:          Exponential decay up to 12 months          and then 0% afterwards; calibrated such that the first 6 months VE equals the trial estimate</p>



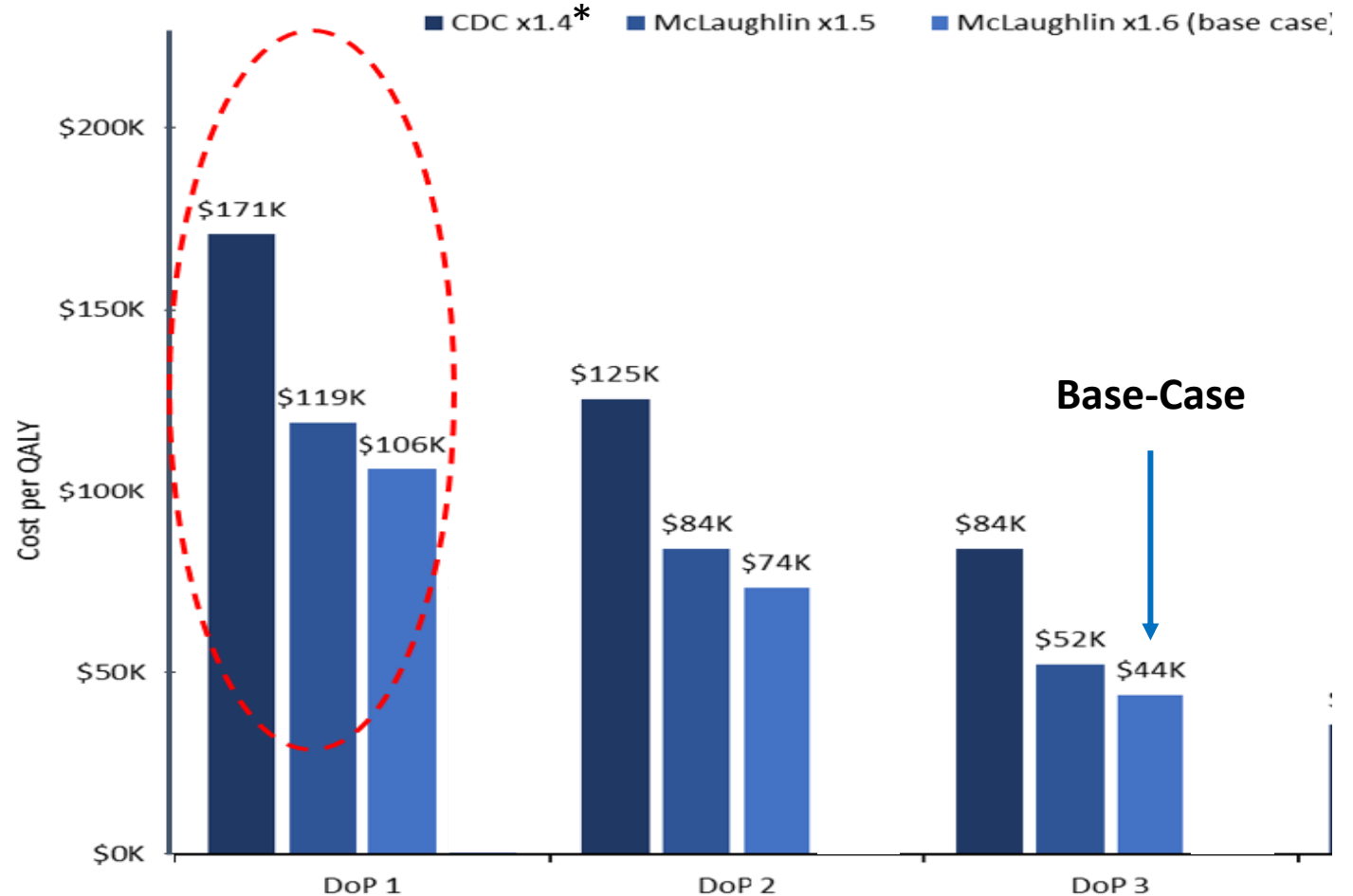
# Pfizer: Impact of vaccine's duration of protection (DoP) assumption on $\geq 65$ yrs Cost per QALY saved

DoP 1: 7 months durable protection, followed by linear waning to 0% at 12 months

DoP 2: 7 months durable protection, followed by linear waning to 0% at 18 months

DoP 3: 7 months durable protection, followed by linear waning to 0% at 24 months

**Base-Case**



\* RSV hospitalization incidence labelled "CDC x1.4" used data presented by CDC at IDWeek 2022 (Havers et al. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ofid/ofac492.1828>), upwardly adjusted by a factor of 1.4 (based on Zhang et al. <https://doi.org/10.1128/jcm.01701-16>).

# Comparison of **GSK** and *Pfizer* vaccines: base case & scenario \$/QALY results using **UM-CDC** model

Scenario	<b>GSK</b>	<i>Pfizer</i>
Vaccine cost \$200 per dose (one year time frame)	\$374,530	\$384,267
Vaccinating adults aged ≥60 years	\$229,895	\$233,779
Medical cost for hospitalization (lower bound)	\$199,018	\$205,236
<b>Base case</b> <sub>a</sub> (Vaccine Price \$100, 1 year time frame)	<b>\$180,720</b>	<b>\$189,407</b>
Higher incidence of RSV <sub>b</sub>	\$91,028	\$104,160
Vaccine cost \$50 per dose (one year time frame)	\$85,815	\$91,977

a Recommendation = vaccination at age ≥65 years; vaccine unit cost = \$100; incidence rates of RSV outcomes unadjusted for increased diagnostic yield from testing in addition to RT-PCR on a respiratory specimen; vaccine efficacy only considered for one year post-vaccination

b Base case incidence rates adjusted upward for increased diagnostic yield from testing in addition to RT-PCR on a respiratory specimen (1.5x for outpatient illness [McLaughlin et al; Open Forum Infect Dis (2022)], 1.4x for inpatient illness [Zhang et al; J Clin Microbiol(2016)])

# Limitations

- **Factors not considered that may result in overestimating the ICER (underestimating the cost-effectiveness) of RSV vaccination**
  - None of the 3 models included RSV-related medical costs incurred after discharge from an RSV-associated hospitalization or emergency department visit:
    - Stay in long-term care or rehabilitation facility
    - Assisted living at home
    - Productivity losses incurred by caregivers whose support is needed post-discharge
  - All of the 3 models assumed no indirect effects of vaccination (i.e., no protection against RSV transmission)
- **Vaccine efficacy beyond clinical trial follow-up time (6–7 months) is unknown**
  - All 3 models assumed non-zero declining efficacy beyond 6–7 months (UM-CDC: 12 months, GSK: 12 months, Pfizer: 24 months).

# Conclusion

- **Differences in key inputs among GSK, Pfizer and UM-CDC models explain differences in results:**
  - Incidence of hospitalization
  - Duration of vaccine efficacy
  - Medical costs
  - Vaccine costs
- **Assumptions and selection of input data were crucial in differences in ICERs**
  - Adjustment approach of incidence rates of Hospitalization, ER and Outpatient
  - Selection of medical costs sources and data extraction approach
- **Base-case in the 3 models:**
  - Vaccination would significantly reduce RSV disease burden in older adults
    - VE clinical trials data and assumptions support impact on disease reduction
  - Economic value of RSV vaccines appear to be **costly** and could be *cost-effective*
    - RSV incidence, related healthcare costs, initial VE and duration combined with reasonable vaccine price would determine the **cost-effectiveness** value of RSV vaccination

# Acknowledgements

From NCIRD/CDC

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- Fiona Havers
- Meredith McMorro

Also:

- Adult RSV working group members
- Econ Team members at ISD/NCIRD



# End of Summary

For more information, contact CDC  
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)  
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

