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YOUR CHILD'S HEALTH

Presented by the medical professionals at Midcoast Pediatrics

RSV

Respiratory syncytial virus, commonly referred to as RSV, can sound scary to parents whose young children have been diagnosed with it. But if your child is otherwise healthy, it's not a scary diagnosis at all. RSV is much like a really bad cold, with the same symptoms of cough, runny or stuffy nose, sore throat, earache, and fever. Infants with the illness might additionally have a lack of energy, be fussy, and experience loss of appetite. RSV can last a week or two, and it is very common and contagious. In fact, most children have had RSV by age two. RSV is, however, the leading cause of pneumonia and bronchitis, so it is important to stay on top of symptoms.

P.S.: Treat fever with acetaminophen or ibuprofen, but never aspirin as it can cause Reyes Syndrome in people under 20 years old.

If you would like further information about today's column, contact MIDCOAST PEDIATRICS. Here, we see patients from infancy to adolescence and care for a spectrum of child ailments. We take the time to listen, and make sure your child's visit is a positive experience by offering individual care and compassionate, gentle treatment. To schedule an appointment, call 207-721-8333. We are located at 121 Medical Center Drive, Suite 2600, Brunswick. New patients are welcome.

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