

The Synagis season is upon us and we are providing the following information to obtain Synagis for your eligible members.

The criteria used for this season have changed and are based on the new American Academy of Pediatrics' (AAP) Synagis guidelines as published in the July 2014 AAP's Pediatrics journal, as well as decisions resulting from clinical discussions with medical providers serving the Texas population.

SEASON START/END DATES:

Region	Counties Serviced	START	END
Region 1: High Plains	Armstrong, Bailey, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Cochran, Collingsworth, Crosby, Dallam, Deaf Smith, Dickens, Donley, Floyd, Garza, Gray, Hale, Hall, Hansford, Hartley, Hemphill, Hockley, Hutchinson, King, Lamb, Lipscomb, Lubbock, Lynn, Moore, Motley, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman, Swisher, Terry, Wheeler, Yoakum	11/15/17	04/14/18
Region 2: Northwest Texas	Archer, Baylor, Brown, Callahan, Clay, Coleman, Comanche, Cottle, Eastland, Fisher, Foard, Hardeman, Haskell, Jack, Jones, Kent, Knox, Mitchell, Montague, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Stonewall, Stephens, Taylor, Throckmorton, Wichita, Wilbarger, Young	11/15/17	04/15/18
Region 3: Metroplex	Collin, Cooke, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Fannin, Grayson, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, Tarrant, Wise	11/01/17	03/31/18
Region 7: Central Texas	Bastrop, Bell, Blanco, Bosque, Brazos, Burleson, Burnet, Caldwell, Coryell, Falls, Fayette, Freestone, Grimes, Hamilton, Hays, Hill, Lampasas, Lee, Leon, Limestone, Llano, Madison, McLennan, Milam, Mills, Robertson, San Saba, Travis, Washington, Williamson	10/15/17	03/14/18
Region 8: Upper South Texas	Atacosa, Bandera, Bexar, Calhoun, Comal, DeWitt, Dimmit, Edwards, Frio, Gillespie, Goliad, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Jackson, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, Kinney, La Salle, Lavaca, Maverick, Medina, Real, Uvalde, Val Verde, Victoria, Wilson, Zavala	10/11/18	03/31/17
Region 9: West Texas	Andrews, Borden, Coke, Concho, Crane, Crockett, Dawson, Ector, Gaines, Glasscock, Howard, Irion, Kimble, Loving, Martin, Mason, McCulloch, Menard, Midland, Pecos, Reagan, Reeves, Schleicher, Sterling, Sutton, Terrell, Tom Green, Upton, Ward, Winkler	11/15/17	04/14/18
Region 10: Upper Rio Grande	Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Presidio	11/15/17	03/14/18

FirstCare Health Plan - Palivizumab (*Synagis*) Prior Authorization Request Form

About

Synagis[®] is a prescription medication that is used to help prevent serious lung disease caused by respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) in infants and children at high risk.

The information and form contained in this document should be used to obtain prior authorization for clients who meet the specified criteria. The start of RSV season varies based on a client's county of residence.

Initial Dosage

The provider or provider's agent should send a completed **Synagis[®] Prior Authorization Request Form** which includes (1) preferred pharmacy, (2) patient demographics, (3) patient diagnosis, and (4) Synagis[®] prescription (bottom of the form), in addition to any supporting clinical information to one of the preferred pharmacies listed at the top of the form.

The pharmacy **faxes the completed form to the [NAVITUS Prior Authorization Department](#) at 1-855-668-8551.**

If the information submitted demonstrates medical necessity, the request is approved, and both the pharmacy and provider are notified via approval letters. The dispensing pharmacy fills the prescription and ships an individual dose of Synagis[®], in the name of the patient, directly to the provider. An initiation packet that contains information about Synagis[®] is to be mailed by the pharmacy to the patient's family.

The physician or provider under the direct supervision of the physician administers the Synagis[®]. The administering provider may only bill for an injection administration fee and any medically necessary office-based evaluation and management services provided at the time of injection. The pharmacy is reimbursed for the drug and dispensing fees.

If the information submitted does not demonstrate medical necessity then the request is denied and both the pharmacy and provider are notified of the denial via denial letters. Based on the 2014 American Academy of Pediatrics guidance, prophylactic Synagis[®] injections should not continue if a patient is hospitalized for RSV, therefore patients who are hospitalized for RSV while being treated with Synagis[®] may not be approved for subsequent doses.

Subsequent Dosage

Patients are allowed up to 5 monthly doses of Synagis[®]. Depending on the date of the initial dose, a patient may not receive all 5 monthly injections before the end of season. The pharmacy must contact the prescriber to:

- Verify that the patient has not experienced a breakthrough RSV hospitalization
- Obtain patient's updated weight
- Verify that the patient was administered all previously dispensed Synagis[®] doses
- Pharmacies should maintain a log of the information obtained from the injecting provider

Contact

Fax the completed prior authorization form to NAVITUS at 1-855-668-8551.

Providers with questions should call the NAVITUS Texas Provider Hotline at 1-866-333-2757.

Dispensing Pharmacy FAX completed form to NAVITUS for approval: 1.855.668.8551

Effective Date: 09/2016

FirstCare Health Plan - Palivizumab (*Synagis*) Prior Authorization Request Form

Prescribing practitioner should FAX completed form to **pharmacy** for processing:

Select Pharmacy: **Avella Pharmacy 877.480.1746** OR **Maxor Pharmacy 866.217.8034**

Patient Name:		Member ID:		DOB:	
Patient Address:			Patient Phone:		
County of Residence/Zip:			Doses Requested (5 Max, or through season end):		
ICD-9-CM code: _____ OR ICD-10-CM code: _____			Gestational Age: & / 7 weeks		
Has patient received a Synagis® prophylaxis dose during hospitalization since the start of the current RSV season? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – If Yes, number of injections: _____ Dose (mg): _____ Date(s) of Injection(s): _____					
Has the patient been hospitalized due to RSV at any time since the start of the current RSV season? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – If Yes, date of diagnosis _____					
PATIENT DIAGNOSIS AT THE START OF RSV SEASON (Diagnoses/conditions must be clearly documented in the patient's medical record.)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Patients who are younger than 24 months chronological age can qualify, for up to 5 monthly doses of Synagis®, based on diagnosis listed to the right <input type="checkbox"/> Patients who are between 12 - 24 months chronological age at the start of the RSV season can qualify, for up to 5 monthly doses of Synagis®, based on the diagnosis or conditions listed to the right <i>* Please refer to page 3 for definition</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> 24-1: Profoundly immunocompromised during the RSV season (e.g., solid organ or hematopoietic stem cell transplant, chemotherapy or other condition that leaves the infant profoundly immunocompromised): ICD-9-CM code: _____ ICD-10-CM code: _____			
		<input type="checkbox"/> 24-2: Active diagnosis of chronic lung disease (CLD) of prematurity [†] AND required any of the following therapies within the 6 months prior to the current RSV season (check all that apply): ICD-9-CM code: _____ ICD-10-CM code: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Chronic systemic corticosteroids <input type="checkbox"/> > 21% Supplemental oxygen <input type="checkbox"/> Bronchodilator therapy <input type="checkbox"/> Long-Term Mechanical Ventilator <input type="checkbox"/> Diuretics			
<input type="checkbox"/> Patients who are younger than 12 months chronological age at the start of the RSV season can qualify, for up to 5 monthly doses of Synagis®, based on criteria listed to the right.		<input type="checkbox"/> 12-1: ≤ 28 6/7 weeks gestational age at birth: ICD-9-CM code: _____ ICD-10-CM code: _____			
		<input type="checkbox"/> 12-2: Chronic lung disease (CLD) of prematurity [†] : ICD-9-CM code: _____ ICD-10-CM code: _____			
		<input type="checkbox"/> 12-3: Severe congenital abnormality of airway OR severe neuromuscular disease that impairs the ability to clear secretions from the upper airway because of ineffective cough: ICD-9-CM code: _____ ICD-10-CM code: _____			
		<input type="checkbox"/> 12-4: Active diagnosis of hemodynamically significant congenital heart disease (CHD): ICD-9-CM code: _____ ICD-10-CM code: _____ AND any of the below: <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate to severe pulmonary hypertension <input type="checkbox"/> Acyanotic heart disease, on medication to control congestive heart failure, and will require cardiac surgery <input type="checkbox"/> Cyanotic heart disease (with consultation from a pediatric cardiologist) (NOTE: This excludes infants with hemodynamically insignificant heart disease - refer to page 3 for list)			
		<input type="checkbox"/> 12-5: Diagnosis of cystic fibrosis with clinical evidence of CLD and/or nutritional compromise ICD-9-CM code: _____ ICD-10-CM code: _____			
Rx: Synagis® (palivizumab) Liquid Solution 50mg and/or 100mg vials Dose (mg): _____ Current Weight (kg): _____ Sig: Inject 15mg/kg one time per month Quantity: QS for weight based dosing Refills: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Syringes 1mL 25G 5/8" <input type="checkbox"/> Syringes 3mL 20G 1" <input type="checkbox"/> Epinephrine 1:1000 amp Sig: Inject 0.01mg/kg as directed.					
Prescriber Name (PRINT):				Date: / /	
ADDRESS:		CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
PHONE:		FAX:		NPI:	
Prescriber Signature:				License Number:	

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Category	Subcategories
‡Chronic Lung Disease (CLD) of Prematurity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infants born < 32 weeks, 0 days' gestational age that require >21% oxygen for at least 28 days after birth.
Hemodynamically significant heart disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) requiring medication • Moderate to severe pulmonary hypertension • Unrepaired cyanotic congenital heart disease
*Severe lung disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous hospitalization for pulmonary exacerbation in the first year of life or • Abnormalities on chest radiography or chest computed tomography that persist when stable
The following groups of infants are <i>not at increased risk of RSV</i> and generally should not receive immunoprophylaxis:	
1) Hemodynamically insignificant heart	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secundum atrial septal defect • Small ventriculoseptal defect • Pulmonic stenosis • Uncomplicated aortic stenosis • Mild coarctation of the aorta • Patent ductus arteriosus
2) Congenital heart disease adequately corrected by surgery which does not continue to require medication for congestive heart failure	
3) Mild cardiomyopathy that does not require medical therapy for the condition	
4) Children in their second year of life on the basis of a history of prematurity alone	
<p>NOTE: Tobacco smoke exposure is <u>NOT</u> an indication for Synagis® administration. Tobacco dependent parents should be offered tobacco dependence treatment or referral for tobacco dependence treatment. 1-877-YES-QUIT (1-877-937-7848, YesQuit.org) is the Quitline operated in Texas.</p>	

Additional Information

- First Care Health Plan has adopted the updated guidance published in 2014 by the American Academy of Pediatrics.
- Infants born at 29 weeks, 0 days' gestation or later are no longer universally recommended to receive prophylaxis with Synagis®. Infants born at 29 weeks, 0 days' gestation or later, on the basis of chronic lung disease, congenital heart disease, or another condition, may qualify to receive prophylaxis.
- Synagis® is not recommended in the second year of life on the basis of prematurity alone.
- Monthly prophylaxis should be discontinued in any child who experiences a breakthrough RSV hospitalization.

References

- "Updated Guidance for Palivizumab Prophylaxis Among Infants and Young Children at Increased Risk of Hospitalization for Respiratory Syncytial Virus Infection." *Pediatrics* 134.2 (2014): 415-420. Web. 11 Aug. 2015.
- Synagis® (palivizumab) [prescribing information]. Gaithersburg, MD: Medimmune, LLC. 2014.
- Epinephrine 1:1000 (1mg/ml) [prescribing information]. Lake Forest, IL: Hospira. 2008.

For questions, please call Navitus Customer Care at 1-866-333-2757.

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