



MARYLAND Department of Health

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis Schrader, Secretary

Office of Systems, Operations & Pharmacy Maryland Medicaid Pharmacy Program

MEMORANDUM

To: Prescribers/Physicians
Pharmacy Providers

From: Dixit Shah, Deputy Director

Subject: 2017-2018 RSV Season Clinical and Service Prior-Authorizations

Date: October 12, 2017

This memorandum is to update providers of the Maryland Medicaid Pharmacy Program (MMPP) on the coverage of Synagis in high-risk infants for passive immunoprophylaxis against Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) known as a lower respiratory tract infection.

For the 2017-2018 RSV Season, MMPP will utilize the updated July 2014 American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) guidelines for the determination of RSV immunoprophylaxis approval.

The Prescriber shall fax the following forms and documents to the MMPP at (866) 440-9345 to expedite the prior-authorization process: **(incomplete forms will be returned)**

1. The MMPP Prescriber's Statement of Medical Necessity (SMN) form;
2. The MMPP Synagis Service Prior-Authorization form; and
3. The patient's hospital discharge summary, which includes information about the gestational age, medical diagnosis, drug history and prior Synagis administrations given in the hospital before discharge.

The submitted information will be reviewed by the MMPP's clinical pharmacist and the decision will be communicated to the prescriber and pharmacy if provided.

When Synagis is approved by the MMPP:

The Prescriber shall:

1. Contact the pharmacy for the ordering/delivery of Synagis to the office; and
2. Each month, complete the Synagis Service Prior-Authorization Form and fax it to 1-866-440-9345.

The Pharmacy Provider shall:

1. Submit the Synagis claim electronically to the MMPP Point-of-Sale (POS) claims processor to obtain a system denial; and
2. Call 1-800-932-3918 to obtain the necessary POS edit overrides for on-line claim adjudication.

Starting October 16, 2017, the Program will begin accepting and reviewing requests for prior-authorization of Synagis. Synagis may be billed after October 23, 2017 and the first Synagis dose should not be administered to patients before November 1, 2017.

Once the participant is approved, the drug will be covered for the number of doses needed for the RSV season as per AAP guidelines. Should the prescriber feel that the infant, who has been denied Synagis, has extenuating co-morbidity and severe risks for complications due to RSV, a recommendation letter by the child’s pulmonologist or cardiologist should be faxed to the MMPP for reconsideration on a case-by-case basis.

Pharmacy providers are responsible to verify the participant’s eligibility each month by calling the Eligibility Verification Automated System (EVS) at 1-866-710-1447 (24 hours/7 days) before submitting their requests for a refill. Requests for prior-authorization for participants who are enrolled in a Managed Care Organization (MCO) should be directed to the respective MCO. Below is a list of telephone numbers for the MCO’s prior-authorizations:

TOLL-FREE PHONE NUMBERS FOR MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATIONS

Managed Care Organization/Customer Service	Pharmacy Benefit Managers’ Phone Number
AMERIGROUP Community Care	1-800-600-4441
Jai Medical Systems	1-888-524-1999
Maryland Physicians Care	1-800-953-8854
Medstar (Helix) Family Choice	1-888-404-3549
Priority Partners	1-800-654-9728
United Healthcare	1-800-318-8821
University of Maryland Health Partners	1-800-730-8530
Kaiser Permanente	1-855-249-5019

Any additional questions concerning prior-authorizations of Synagis may be directed to the Clinical Pharmacist at 1-800-932-3918. All prior-authorization forms for Synagis may be downloaded from the MMPP website at <https://mmcp.dhmdh.maryland.gov/pap/SitePages/Clinical%20Criteria.aspx>.