



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D., Secretary

Office of Systems, Operations and Pharmacy
Medical Care Programs

MEMORANDUM

To: Pediatricians
Specialty Pharmacy Providers

From: Mary Mussman, MD., Physician Advisor *MM*

Subject: 2012-2013 RSV Season, Synagis® Prior-Authorizations

Date: October 18, 2012

This memorandum is to update providers of the Maryland Medicaid Pharmacy Program (MMPP) on the coverage of Synagis® for passive immunoprophylaxis for high-risk infants against respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) lower respiratory tract infection.

For the 2012-2013 RSV season, MMPP will utilize the updated 2012 American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) guidelines for RSV immunoprophylaxis. The 2012 change to the 2009 guidelines, made by AAP, relates to the risk factor for those infants born at 32 weeks, 0 days through 34 weeks, 6 days of gestation and living permanently in the same household as one or more older siblings younger than 5 years of age or other children younger than 5 years of age. Multiple births younger than 1 year of age do not qualify as fulfilling a risk factor.

The Prescriber shall fax the following forms and medical records to MMPP at 410-333-5398 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 ;
3. The patient's hospital discharge summary, which includes information about the gestational age, medical diagnoses, drug history and prior Synagis® doses given in the hospital prior to discharge.

Above forms are available at:

<http://mmcp.dhmh.maryland.gov/pap/SitePages/Pharmacy%20Program%20Forms.aspx>

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

When the Synagis[®] is approved by the MMPP:

The Prescriber shall:

1. Contact the specialty pharmacy for the ordering and delivery of Synagis[®] to the office; and
2. Each month, complete the Synagis[®] Service Prior-Auth Form and fax it to 1-410-333-5398.

The specialty 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 1-800-492-5231 option 3 to obtain the necessary POS edit overrides for on-line claim adjudication.

Starting October 15, 2012, the Program started accepting requests for prior-authorization for Synagis[®]. Synagis[®] should be billed after October 24, 2012 and administration of the drug should begin on or after November 1, 2012 and end March 31, 2013.

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

Pharmacy providers must verify the recipient's eligibility in the fee-for-service program (FFS) each month by calling the Eligibility Verification Automated System (EVS) at 1-866-710-1447 (24 hrs/7 days) before submitting their requests for prior-authorization for Synagis[®] to MMPP and shipping the drug to the doctor's office. Requests for prior-authorization for recipients enrolled in a managed care organization (MCO) should be directed to the respective MCO. Below is a list of Toll free phone numbers for the MCO's Synagis[®] prior-authorizations:

TOLL- FREE PHONE NUMBERS FOR MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATIONS

Managed Care Organization/Customer Service #	Pharmacy Benefit Managers' Phone Number
AMERIGROUP Community Care	1-800-454-3730
Diamond Plan from Coventry HC	1-800-727-9951
Jai Medical Systems	1-800-555-8513
Maryland Physicians Care	1-866-297-0933 (dedicated line)

Medstar Family Choice	410-933-2200 Option 1
Priority Partners	410-424-4490 Option 4
United Healthcare	1-866-940-7328 Fax

If you have any future questions regarding the prior-authorization of Synagis[®], please feel free to contact at 1-800-492-5231 option 3.