

Provider Update

Synagis (palivizumab) prior authorization process overview

Synagis® requires prior authorization (PA) when billed through the medical or pharmacy benefit. Synagis may be considered for coverage during the respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) season from November 1-March 31 as designated in the state Synagis PA criteria. Please refer to the specific PA processes below. The PA process differs for medical PA and retail pharmacy PA. The forms and help desk information are unique to each process.

Amerigroup Iowa, Inc. follows the current American Academy of Pediatrics guidelines for eligibility criteria for prophylaxis of high-risk infants and young children. PAs will be approved for administration during the RSV season for a maximum of five doses per patient. No allowances will be made for a sixth dose. Patients who experience a breakthrough RSV hospitalization should have their monthly prophylaxis discontinued as there is an extremely low likelihood of a second RSV hospitalization in the same season.

Medical benefit PA process

A medical PA is required when the provider's office uses the Synagis from their stock to administer to the child. Providers must use *Prior Authorization Form: Medical Injectables* to send the clinical information in for their patient. This form is available on the Amerigroup provider website at https://providers.amerigroup.com/ProviderDocuments/IAIA_MedicalInjectablePAFormhealthlink.pdf.

Once the form is complete, fax it to Amerigroup at 1-844-512-7026.

Retail pharmacy PA process

The Iowa Medicaid pharmacy PA criteria require Synagis to be administered in the member's home by a medical agency (e.g., a home health agency). A pharmacy PA is required when the pharmacy supplies the Synagis to the member who brings a prescription to a retail pharmacy. The pharmacy Synagis PA criteria are located at http://www.iowamedicaidpdl.com/pa_criteria.

Providers must use the *Synagis (palivizumab) Prior Authorization of Benefits (PAB) Form* to send the clinical information in for their patient. This form is available on the Amerigroup provider website at https://providers.amerigroup.com/PriorAuthorization%20Forms/IAIA_PA_Synagis.pdf.

For both processes, providers may contact the Amerigroup PA help desk at 1-800-454-3730 or contact Amerigroup at <https://providers.amerigroup.com/IA>.

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