

Provider Newsletter

<https://providers.amerigroup.com/MD>



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Vascular embolization or occlusion services to require prior authorization

Effective September 1, 2016, vascular embolization or occlusion services will require prior authorization (PA).

Vascular embolization or occlusion services requests must be reviewed by Amerigroup Community Care for PA for dates of service on and after September 1, 2016. To request PA, use one of the following methods:



- Phone: 1-800-454-3730
- Fax: 1-800-964-3627

For a list of Amerigroup reimbursement policies and more information on PA requirements, please visit our website at <https://providers.amerigroup.com/MD>.

- For reimbursement policies, select [Reimbursement Policies](#).
- For authorization requirements, select [Precertification Lookup Tool](#).

If you have questions about this communication or need assistance with any other item, call Provider Services at 1-800-454-3730.

Synagis (palivizumab)

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) season begins as early as September and runs through April. Synagis (palivizumab) is a monoclonal antibody indicated for the prevention of RSV. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends a maximum of five (15 mg/kg) monthly doses of palivizumab during the RSV season for high-risk infants who were born before 29 weeks, 0 days gestation, have chronic lung disease (CLD) of prematurity or have hemodynamically significant heart disease. Updated indications for prophylaxis can be found in the July 2014 AAP Policy Statement and on our provider website at <https://providers.amerigroup.com/MD>.



The Synagis prior authorization form can be found on provider website at <https://providers.amerigroup.com/MD>> Provider Resources & Documents > Pharmacy > Pharmacy Prior Authorization Form. Only one request is needed for each patient throughout the RSV season. In a case where higher dosage is necessary due to weight gain, documentation of the patient's new weight must be provided.

In most cases, Express Scripts, Inc. is the preferred provider for Synagis requests. However, some markets prefer other vendors. Please check with your local Provider Services representative or our Provider Services team at 1 800 454 3730 for specific details on how to obtain Synagis. You can also find additional drug information at <https://providers.amerigroup.com/MD>.

Reimbursement Policies

New Policy

Reimbursement for Maximum Units Per Day

(Policy 15-003, effective 01/01/2017)



Amerigroup Community Care allows reimbursement for a procedure or service that is billed for a single date of service by the same provider and/or provider group up to the maximum number of units allowed per day.

When the number of units assigned to a procedure or service exceeds the daily maximum allowed, our claims editing system will allow the number of units billed within the maximum limit; units billed in excess of the maximum per day limit will not be eligible for reimbursement.

For additional information, refer to the Reimbursement for Maximum Units Per Day policy at <https://providers.amerigroup.com> > Quick Tools > Reimbursement Policies > [Medicaid/Medicare](#).

Policy Update

Durable Medical Equipment (Rent to Purchase)

(Policy 06-052, effective 01/01/2017)

Amerigroup Community Care allows reimbursement for Durable Medical Equipment (DME). Reimbursement is based on the rental price up to the maximum allowed for the particular DME. The item is considered purchased once the purchase price has been met. There may be instances in which a particular item may be considered for direct purchase on a case-by-case basis.

Components of Rental DME

Supplies and accessory components associated with rental DME are not separately reimbursed and considered all-inclusive in the rental reimbursement.

The reimbursement limit for rented DME is 13 months. Once the limit is met, claims submitted for the rental of the item will be denied.

Circumstances Affecting Rental Reimbursement

- A new reimbursement period limit will begin for rental periods with a break in coverage of more than 60 days
- If a member changes suppliers during the rental period, a new rental period will not start over

Amerigroup allows reimbursement for oxygen equipment for a maximum of 36 months; however, we will continue to reimburse for oxygen contents.

For additional information, refer to Durable Medical Equipment (Rent to Purchase) policy at <https://providers.amerigroup.com> > Quick Tools > Reimbursement Policies > [Medicaid/Medicare](#).



Policy Reminder

DME Modifiers for New, Rented, and Used Equipment (Policy 06-053, effective 3/14/16)

Amerigroup Community Care allows reimbursement for new, rented or used equipment appended with the appropriate modifier. The listed modifiers must be billed in the primary or first modifier field to determine appropriate reimbursement:

- Modifier NU: new equipment
- Modifier RR: rented equipment
- Modifier UE: purchase of used equipment

These modifiers are appropriate for Durable Medical Equipment (DME), prosthetics and orthotics. These modifiers are inappropriate for supplies unless required under state or CMS guidelines. Claims for supplies appended with Modifier NU, RR or UE may be denied.

For additional information, refer to the DME Modifiers for New, Rented and Used Equipment policy at <https://providers.amerigroup.com> > Quick Tools > Reimbursement Policies > [Medicaid/Medicare](#).

