

## **An Important Note from Home State Health's Medical Director Synagis Injections**

Home State Health is actively encouraging appropriate use of Synagis® injections for prophylaxis against RSV, and would like to assist in ensuring that your patients receive this treatment if it is indicated. We have included the current guidance from Missouri Health Net regarding inclusion criteria for this treatment as well as other resources to help patients receive this treatment when appropriate.

Please use the below listed MO Health Net Synagis® guidelines to assist in determining if Synagis® is appropriate for your patient:

1. Treatment is being administered at the start or within the RSV season (based on geographical area), November – March.
2. < 2 years old with chronic lung disease (CLD) that required treatment within the past 6 months. Treatment includes use of oxygen on a continuous basis, bronchodilator, diuretic, corticosteroid or ventilator dependent.
3. Patients born ≤ 28 weeks and 6 days of gestation and are currently ≤ 1 year of age (max 5 doses).
4. Patients born between 29 and 31 weeks and 6 days gestation and are currently ≤ 6 months of age (max 5 doses).
5. Patients born between 32 and 34 weeks and 6 days gestation and are currently ≤ 3 months of age if they have one risk factor present such as:
  - a. Child care attendance
  - b. Siblings <5 years old (max 5 doses).
6. ≤ 24 months of age with hemodynamically significant cyanotic and acyanotic congenital heart disease (max 5 doses). **Infants who most likely are to benefit from immunoprophylaxis such as:**
  - a. Those receiving medication to control CHF
  - b. Those with moderate to severe pulmonary hypertension
  - c. Those with cyanotic heart disease
7. ≤12 months of age with congenital abnormality of the airway or neuromuscular disease born at <35 weeks gestation (max 5 doses).
8. Children ≤24 months of age with severe immunodeficiencies (severe combined immunodeficiencies, HIV/AIDS) or recent organ transplant who may benefit from prophylaxis (subject to clinical/medical review) (max 5 doses).

Synagis® is usually given as five monthly intramuscular injections during the RSV season, which generally lasts from November through March. The exceptions to this include the following:

**Contact Provider Partnership:** .....

**HomeStateHealth.com**

**Allwell.HomeStateHealth.com**

**Ambetter.HomeStateHealth.com**

**Home State: 1-855-694-4663**

**MAPD: 1-855-766-1452 / D-SNP: 1-833-298-3361 / TTY:711**

**Ambetter: 1-855-650-3789 TTY/TDD: 1-877-250-6113**

1. Infants born before 29 weeks, but during the RSV season, may require fewer than five doses.
2. Monthly prophylaxis should be discontinued in any child who experiences a breakthrough RSV hospitalization.

Information about RSV census regional trends can be found on the CDC website:  
<http://www.cdc.gov/surveillance/nrevss/rsv/region.html#midwest>.

The AAP 2014 updated guidance can be found at:

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2014/07/23/peds.2014-1665>

If your patients do indeed meet the above guidelines for Synagis®, it can be administered either in the office, or if necessary, at home. If administered in the office, charges for the injection administration should be billed directly to Home State Health Plan on a (HCFA) CMS 1500 claim form using CPT code 96372. You can also bill for an appropriate office visit on the same day as the administration of the drug. As with other injectables, the Synagis® itself is billed to MO HealthNet fee for service.

If necessary, Synagis® can also be administered by home health care nurses; nursing visits must be prior authorized by Home State Health Plan through our Prior Authorization Department at fax number 855-286-1811.

Home State Health will assist, if necessary, in coordinating care with your office, to ensure medication compliance.

During flu season, please encouraged all infants, children, and their contacts to be immunized against influenza beginning at 6 months of age. Synagis and the influenza vaccine may be administered in the same visit to qualifying infants.

Sincerely,



Nadim Kanafani, MD  
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