

Provider Memorandum

Molina Extends Synagis Coverage, With Proper Prior Authorization

Molina Healthcare of Illinois (Molina) is informing providers of a temporary change in coverage for Synagis (palivizumab), a drug used to prevent Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) infection in premature babies. It is given seasonally when RSV rates are high—typically November to March in Illinois. However, due to measures taken this year to decrease the spread of COVID, Illinois and other states are seeing higher RSV cases since August.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has recommended starting preventive treatments for the RSV season earlier. Therefore, providers can send Molina Prior Authorization requests for Synagis at this time. If the patient meets Molina's clinical criteria for this drug, we will approve five monthly doses starting now.

Molina's clinical criteria is based on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) guidance on Synagis for a maximum of five doses per season, which provides six months of protection. The Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) so far has approved Synagis for August and September doses only. Molina, however, will approve the entire five-dose regimen immediately for those who meet clinical criteria.

How to Proceed

Prior Authorization is **required**. Providers should use the [Synagis Authorization Form](#) found on the [Formulary page](#) of the Molina provider website. Instructions are on the form itself. Call Molina's Pharmacy team at **(855) 866-5462** with questions.

This is a specialty drug available via the Pharmacy benefit once Prior Authorization is received.

No clinical guidance currently exists for Synagis past the five recommended doses in a season. Molina will address this topic as necessary if and when further guidance is given for any additional doses in one seasonal year.

Questions?

We're here to help. Contact your Provider Network Manager or email the Provider Network Management team at MHILProviderNetworkManagement@MolinaHealthcare.com. For help identifying your Provider Network Manager, visit [Molina's Service Area](#) page at MolinaHealthcare.com.

Availity Provider Portal

We continue our transition to the Molina Availity Provider Portal, a tool that streamlines your claims management, authorizations, and eligibility/benefit verification. Are you registered yet? [Click here](#) to get started.

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Note: Molina's website and documents are best viewed in Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge.