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DMAP Policy and Planning Section

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Authorized Signature

Issue Date: 10/16/2012

Topic: Medical Benefits

Subject: Provider announcement: Palivizumab (Synagis®) reimbursement reminders

Applies to:

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|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging | <input type="checkbox"/> Seniors and People with Disabilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children, Adults and Families | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): DHS and OHA staff and others identified on the SPD, CAF, AMH and DMAP transmittal lists |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County DD Program Managers | |

Message:

DMAP will post the following letter and send to [OHP Provider Announcements](#) and Pharmacy Program Announcements eSubscribe lists. It explains how to get authorization for palivizumab (Synagis®) during respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) season.

Pharmacies, not medical providers, will be reimbursed for the serum; providers will be reimbursed for administration only.

RSV usually causes only upper respiratory tract symptoms, but more severe infection can occur especially in immunocompromised individuals, who may benefit from palivizumab (Synagis®) treatment.

If you have any questions about this information, contact:

Contact(s):	DMAP Pharmacy Program
E-mail:	dmap.rxquestions@state.or.us



HEALTH CARE PROGRAMS
Division of Medical Assistance Programs

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www.oregon.gov/OHA/healthplan

Date: October 16, 2012

To: Medical practitioners

From: Don Ross, Manager
Policy and Planning Section, DMAP

Subject: Palivizumab (Synagis®) reimbursement during Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) season

As you know, RSV season is on the horizon. This letter is to remind you about Division of Medical Assistance Programs (DMAP) reimbursement of Synagis® RSV immunoprophylaxis:

- Effective Aug. 20, DMAP only reimburses pharmacies (not practitioners) for Synagis® serum.
- Pharmacy reimbursement requires prior authorization (PA) through the Oregon Pharmacy Call Center.
- DMAP will no longer reimburse practitioners for the serum under CPT 90378. Instead, DMAP will reimburse practitioners for administration of the serum when billed with a CPT therapeutic injection code.
- Most patients will be eligible for five doses or less, depending on the patient's risk factors. This limit includes any doses the patient may have already received in the hospital.

Why is this happening?

In May 2012, the Oregon Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee adopted new PA criteria for the use of palivizumab, based on the American Academy of Pediatrics 2009 policy statement¹.

DMAP will only cover palivizumab for patients who meet the current criteria. Authorization is only permitted during RSV season².

What you should do?

To request PA during RSV season, contact the Oregon Pharmacy Call Center at 1-888-202-2126.

- [Sign up for the Public Health Division's RSV surveillance updates](#) to receive notice of RSV season onset.
- View DMAP's [Oregon Medicaid PA Criteria](#) for current PA requirements.
- Obtain the patient's weight within 30 days of your PA request to ensure optimal dosing. The authorized dose will be 15 mg/kg intramuscularly.

¹ Committee on Infectious Disease. "Modified Recommendations for Use of Palivizumab for Prevention of Respiratory Syncytial Virus Infections." *Pediatrics* 2009, 124: 1694-1701.

² RSV season is Nov. 1 to Mar. 31, or as identified by the [Oregon Public Health Division](#) (whichever comes first). RSV season onset is defined as 2 consecutive weeks where % positive is $\geq 10\%$ (based on a minimum of 10 tests). In the event of an early onset specific to the client's area, DMAP may permit authorization earlier than Nov. 1; see PA criteria for details.

Thank you for your support

Thank you for continuing to work with DMAP to ensure that Oregon Health Plan clients receive quality prescription drug therapy.

Questions?

If you have any questions about this announcement, contact the Provider Services Unit at dmap.providerservices@state.or.us or call 1-800-336-6016, Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Friday 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (phone lines closed 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. daily).

Help us improve future announcements:

[Click here](#) to answer six survey questions about this provider announcement.