

# ForwardHealth **UPDATE**

Wisconsin serving you

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## INFORMATION ON PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REQUESTS FOR SYNAGIS AND THE START OF THE RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS SEASON JULY 28, 2021

Due to an increase in respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) virology in Wisconsin, ForwardHealth is accepting prior authorization (PA) requests for Synagis effective July 28, 2021. Synagis (palivizumab), a monoclonal antibody, is used as a prophylaxis to reduce lower respiratory tract disease caused by RSV in premature, high-risk infants and children.

In addition, ForwardHealth is also moving the RSV season start date for providers to begin administering Synagis doses for BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid members when clinically appropriate for dates of service on and after July 28, 2021. ForwardHealth coverage criteria for approved Synagis PA requests is a maximum of five Synagis doses per member; this is not changing. Also per ForwardHealth policy, prescribers or their designees, **not** pharmacy providers, are required to submit PA requests for Synagis. Synagis administered in a hospital does not require PA.

## AFFECTED PROGRAMS

BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid

## TO

County Waiver Agencies, HealthCheck "Other Services" Providers, Nurse Practitioners, Pharmacies, Physician Assistants, Physician Clinics, Physicians, HMOs and Other Managed Care Programs

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Drug Authorization and Policy  
Override Center, 800-947-9627

The information provided in this ForwardHealth Update is published in accordance with Wis. Admin. Code § DHS 107.10(2)(d).

The change in this RSV season's start date for Synagis PA submission and Synagis administration or dispensing is temporary.

ForwardHealth will publish additional guidance during the current RSV season if needed.

Providers should refer to the [Prior Authorization Requests and Amendments for Synagis](#) topic (#7877) of the ForwardHealth Online Handbook for more information about Synagis PA policy.

## Documentation Retention

Providers are reminded that they must follow the documentation retention requirements per Wis. Admin. Code § [DHS 106.02\(9\)](#). Providers are required to produce or submit documentation, or both, to ForwardHealth upon request. Per Wis. Stat. § [49.45\(3\)\(f\)](#), providers of services shall maintain records as required by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services for verification of provider claims for reimbursement. The Department of Health Services may audit such records to verify actual provision of services and the appropriateness and accuracy of claims. ForwardHealth may deny or recoup payment for services that fail to meet these requirements. Refusal to produce documentation may result in sanctions including, but not limited to, termination from the Medicaid program.

## Information Regarding Managed Care Organizations

This Update contains policy for members enrolled in Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus who receive pharmacy services on a fee-for-service basis only. Pharmacy services for Medicaid members enrolled in the Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) are provided by the member's managed care organization.

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The ForwardHealth Update is the first source of program policy and billing information for providers.

Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, SeniorCare, and Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program are administered by the Division of Medicaid Services within the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). The Wisconsin AIDS Drug Assistance Program and the Wisconsin Well Woman Program are administered by the Division of Public Health within DHS.

For questions, call Provider Services at 800-947-9627 or visit our website at [www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/](http://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/).