



Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals
BAYOU HEALTH Informational Bulletin 12-29
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Issue: Bayou Health Pharmacy Benefit and Protocols for Palivizumab (Synagis) for the Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Season

Beginning Nov. 1, 2012, pharmacy benefits for Louisiana Medicaid and LaCHIP recipients enrolled in the Bayou Health Prepaid Plans - **Amerigroup, LaCare** and **Louisiana Healthcare Connections** - will be managed by their respective Bayou Health Plans.

These changes do not apply to those Medicaid and LaCHIP recipients enrolled in the **Community Health Solutions** or **United Healthcare** Bayou Health Plans and other Medicaid or LaCHIP recipients. Their pharmacy benefits will continue to be provided through the state pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) using the Louisiana Medicaid ID Card.

Q: What are the Protocols for Palivizumab (Synagis) for each of the Prepaid Plans?

A: Below are links to the protocols and prior authorization forms for each of the Prepaid Bayou Health Plans.

LaCare:

<http://www.lacarelouisiana.com/provider/resources/priorauth/index.aspx>

<http://www.lacarelouisiana.com/provider/resources/forms/index.aspx>

Amerigroup:

[https://providers.amerigroup.com/AGP%20Documents/PHARM_ALL%20Palivizumab%20\(Synagis\).pdf](https://providers.amerigroup.com/AGP%20Documents/PHARM_ALL%20Palivizumab%20(Synagis).pdf)

Louisiana Healthcare Connections:

<http://www.louisianahealthconnect.com/for-providers/provider-resources/reference-material-forms/>

Q: How will Synagis be administered to patients in the Prepaid Health Plans?

A: The delivery of Synagis administration will be determined by each of the Prepaid Health Plans for their members. Some common administration deliveries include physician's office administration and home health administration. Members will need to consult with their Health Plan to see what delivery mechanism will be approved for them.

Q: What if a member has received doses of Synagis under legacy Medicaid? How will the Prepaid Plan know about those doses?

A: DHH currently provides pharmacy claim information to each Health Plan for their members so the Plans can see the medications that their members are currently using. Additionally, DHH will provide a list to each Prepaid Plan of their members currently receiving Synagis as of the end of October to further facilitate the continuity of this care for Synagis prophylaxis.

Q: How do the Prepaid Health Plans' Prior Authorization or Enrollment processes for Synagis work?

A: Please see below for each Health Plans' processes:

LaCare: If the request for prior authorization of Synagis made by the physician is approved, the authorization is entered into the pharmacy adjudication system tied to the specific member (patient). The member has complete discretion as to where they take the prescription to be filled. Any Specialty pharmacy in the LaCare network can fill the prescription.

Amerigroup: This form is the PA form for Synagis. It is used to capture the necessary medical information used during the medical necessity review process. If the request is approved an authorization is entered into either the medical claims system (FACETS) or the pharmacy claims system (Caremark) depending on which type of provider is billing for the drug.

Louisiana Healthcare Connections: Providers wanting to use their own supply of Synagis should: Complete the enrollment request form, including the NICU discharge summary; Fax the completed request form to Louisiana HealthCare Connections Medical Management Department at 877-401-8175. Providers wanting to use a specialty pharmacy for the overall coordination of the drug distribution process should: Complete the enrollment request form (if assistance is needed please contact US Script at 866-399-0928); Indicate name & phone number of specialty pharmacy on enrollment form, if you leave this blank we will forward to a preferred specialty provider to dispense the drug (if member meets the criteria for approval); Please include the NICU discharge summary with the enrollment form; Fax the completed request form to US Script at 866-399-0929. Providers requesting home health services for administration must also submit an authorization request to Louisiana HealthCare Connections at 877-401-8175. *Please note that the procedures for authorization of the medication is a one-time process per patient for the Synagis season.*