
State of Vermont

Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA)

NOB 1 South, 280 State Drive

Waterbury, VT 05671-1010

March 3, 2022

****Attention Provider ****

Important Update on Synagis® (palivizumab) Dispensing

The Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA), in coordination with their Pharmacy Benefits Manager Change Healthcare, review data from the National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS) to track the epidemic season for Synagis® (palivizumab). Synagis® is indicated for the prevention of serious lower respiratory tract disease caused by respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) in pediatric patients. Peak RSV activity typically occurs between November and March, usually beginning in November or December, peaking in January or February, and ending by the end of March or sometime in April. The DVHA's normal determination for the end of Synagis® "season" is when the percent positives on antigen tests is $\leq 10\%$ for 2 weeks or the percent positives on PCR tests is $\leq 3\%$ for 2 consecutive weeks. At this time, since positivity rates have remained below 3% for 3 weeks, the RSV season is considered to have ended.

Synagis® prophylaxis is of unproven value when administered outside of the RSV season as defined by the Centers for Disease and Prevention (CDC) surveillance reports (<https://www.cdc.gov/surveillance/nrevss/rsv/state.html#VT>).

Therefore, no further shipments will be authorized **after 3/11/22**.

For questions, please contact the Change Healthcare Pharmacy Help Desk at 1-844-679-5362. Vermont providers can also send inquiries via email to **PBA_VTHelpdesk@changehealthcare.com**. Thank you for your continued support of Vermont's pharmacy benefits programs.