



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Valued STAR and CHIP Providers

**FROM:** El Paso Health

**DATE:** 09/29/2021

**RE:** 2021-2022 Synagis Season

As a result of the recent summertime resurgence in RSV activity, HHSC began opening DSHS regions gradually from June 21 through July 23, 2021. With the traditional 2021-22 RSV season approaching, all Texas DSHS regions will remain open. The traditional 2021-22 RSV season will be considered a new season beginning October 1, 2021. Please note the Synagis PA Process has changed.

During Texas's unusual summer RSV season, children who met age and clinical criteria have received monthly summertime doses of Synagis (palivizumab). Children who received doses of Synagis (palivizumab) during the summer RSV season will require reassessment as of October 1, 2021. Children who may require additional doses of Synagis (palivizumab) due to age, and clinical condition, will require completion of a new prior authorization process for possible additional doses.

STAR and CHIP Members: Navitus, El Paso Health's pharmacy benefit manager, is processing all Synagis prior authorization requests for Medicaid and CHIP members enrolled with the health plan. Synagis is only dispensed through the pharmacies listed below.

Lumicera Specialty Pharmacy 2601 West Beltline Highway, Suite 302 Madison, WI 53713 Synagis Phone: 855-847-3554 Synagis Fax: 855-847-3558	Walmart Specialty Phone – 877-453-4566 Fax – 866-537-0877
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The Prior Authorization Process through Navitus has changed and is as follows:

1. **Initial Requests:** require BOTH the Texas Standard Prior Authorization form AND the Synagis request form be filled out by the prescriber, which can be found on the Navitus website:
  - a. Texas Standard Prior Authorization Form:  
<https://txstarchip.navitus.com/pdf-documents/pa-forms/texas-standard-prior-authorization-request-form.aspx>
  - b. Synagis El Paso Health Plans Form:



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[https://txstarchip.navitus.com/pdf-documents/pa-forms/synagis-2019-2020\\_tx-mcaid\\_092419-\(4\).aspx](https://txstarchip.navitus.com/pdf-documents/pa-forms/synagis-2019-2020_tx-mcaid_092419-(4).aspx)

2. Physician faxes the “Navitus Palivizumab (Synagis) Prior Authorization Request Form” directly to selected pharmacy.
  - a. Lumicera Specialty Fax # 855-847-3558
  - b. Walmart Specialty Fax – 866-537-0877
3. Pharmacy will forward completed Prior Authorization Request Forms to Navitus for final approval. Approvals are only granted for ONE dose at a time. Failure to submit both prior authorization forms will result in denial of the request.
4. Subsequent Dose forms: are used to request each dose after the initial approval. Members may be approved for up to five total doses during their local RSV season. The Subsequent Dose forms are filled out by the dispensing pharmacy and forwarded to Navitus for review. The dispensing pharmacy will contact the prescriber office for the information needed on this form including dates of previous Synagis doses, current weight, and if a hospitalization due to an RSV infection has occurred. Approvals are only granted for one dose at a time and outreach to the prescriber office is expected prior to each monthly dose requested.
5. Pharmacy coordinates Synagis delivery with the physician’s office.
6. Physician administers Synagis and bills El Paso Health for the administration.

For additional information concerning Synagis administration for STAR and CHIP Members, please call Navitus 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 1-877-908-6023.