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****Attention Provider ****
Important Update on Synagis (palivizumab) Dispensing

The Office of MaineCare Services (OMS), 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. RSV activity typically occurs between November and March, usually beginning in late November or early December, peaking in January or February, and ending by the end of March or April. The normal determination for the end of Synagis® “season” is when the percent positives on antigen tests is $\leq 10\%$ for two weeks, or the percent positives on PCR tests is $\leq 4\%$ for two consecutive weeks. This year, however, according to Maine’s data, the epidemic season for RSV as defined did not occur.

Therefore, because 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#ME>), no further shipments will be authorized **after March 5, 2021.**

For questions, please contact the Change Healthcare Pharmacy Help Desk at 1-888-420-9711. Maine providers can also send inquiries via email to PBA_Helpdesk@changehealthcare.com. Thank you for your continued support of MaineCare’s pharmacy benefit program.