



Synagis[®] Administration for the 2008-2009 Season

WellCare Health Plans, Inc.
The WellCare Group of Companies

September 29, 2008

Dear Provider,

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) is a common virus which can cause serious respiratory infections to high-risk infants. The current American Academy of Pediatrics recommendation for prevention of RSV involves the administration of prophylaxis with Synagis[®] (palivizumab), a monoclonal antibody to RSV. Criteria to determine which patients may be high-risk and thereby be eligible for prophylaxis therapy are:

Patients who are less than 24 months of age and:

- are diagnosed with chronic pulmonary disease,
- have a hemodynamically significant congenital heart disease,
- premature infants, depending on their gestational age and have the presence of additional risk factors.

To allow for the appropriate utilization of Synagis[®], WellCare Health Plans has developed clinical protocols which are consistent with the guidelines set forth by the American Academy of Pediatrics. The attached Synagis[®] Order Form will allow you to order Synagis[®] for members who meet the previously outlined criteria. Provider offices should submit these requests to the fax number listed on the form.

The pharmacy department will respond to all requests within 24 business hours. Synagis[®] will be shipped directly to provider offices within 48 hours of approval. Only one patient-specific dose based on the weight of the patient will be shipped each month. Requests may be submitted now for the upcoming season which runs October through April (doses will be approved from October through March).

WellCare of Georgia, Inc.
P.O. Box 31366
Tampa, Florida 33631-3366

The Synagis[®] Order Form can also be located <http://georgia.wellcare.com> under Forms and Documents – Pharmacy.



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WellCare will pay a Synagis[®] therapeutic drug administration fee of \$19.67 plus the fee for the office visit for each dose provided in the physician's office. You should bill using the following guidelines:

- CPT 90772 - Therapeutic Administration fee for Synagis[®] injection
- CPT 992XX - Appropriate Office E&M code for visit

Should a provider choose not to administer Synagis[®] in the office, the provider must notify WellCare so we can assist patients in making the necessary arrangements to receive the drug at another location. Synagis[®] will not be routinely authorized for home administration except in certain circumstances where the patient meets medical necessity criteria for home health care visits.

If you require additional information related to authorization requirements or claims payment, please call the WellCare of Georgia, Inc. Pharmacy Department at **(866) 269-5251** or your Provider Relations Representative.

Sincerely,
WellCare of Georgia, Inc.

WellCare of Georgia, Inc.
P.O. Box 31366
Tampa, Florida 33631-3366