

Attention Primary Care Providers:

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) season is here. RSV is a common respiratory virus that usually causes mild, cold-like symptoms. Most people recover in a week or two, but RSV can be serious. Infants and older adults are more likely to develop severe RSV and need hospitalization. It is important to remind patients to protect themselves and their families by getting vaccinations. This can help prevent unnecessary medical visits and hospitalizations that continue to put a strain on our healthcare system.

On November 17, 2023, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) updated the Synagis Standard Prior Authorization Request to include a step to check for Abrysvo vaccine administration to the client's mother between 32 and 36 weeks of pregnancy.

Abrysvo is indicated for the active immunization of pregnant individuals at 32 through 36 weeks gestational age for the prevention of lower respiratory tract disease (LRTD) and severe LRTD caused by respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) in infants from birth through 6 months of age.

Infants whose mothers were vaccinated at the appropriate time may have full protection against RSV and should not need further prophylaxis therapy with Synagis. This immunization is time-sensitive, so if the mother was vaccinated several weeks before the RSV season began, the infant may need further treatment with either Synagis or Beyfortus to ensure protection against RSV throughout the season.

Providers will only need to submit the initial PA approval request, approvals will be granted for up to five (5) doses per treatment course.

Please note subsequent dose forms are not required for the 2023-2024 RSV season. For Synagis initial prior authorization requests, prescribing providers must use both the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) Texas Standard Prior Authorization Form for Prescription Drug Benefits and the TCHP Standard Prior Authorization Request Form.

Please be advised, members who have been hospitalized for an RSV infection during RSV season may be denied further refills for Synagis.

Revisions were made to the following forms:

For Synagis initial prior authorization requests, prescribing providers must use both the [Texas Department of Insurance \(TDI\) Texas Standard Prior Authorization Form for Prescription Drug Benefits](#) and the [TCHP Standard Prior Authorization Request Form](#).