

South Carolina  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**  
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[www.scdhhs.gov](http://www.scdhhs.gov)

September 16, 2010

Phys  
MC  
Hosp  
Med Clin

## MEDICAID BULLETIN

**TO: Providers Indicated**

**SUBJECT: Policy Change for Synagis® Injectable**

Effective for dates of service on or after October 15, 2010, and no later than date of service on March 31, 2011, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) will adopt the American Academy of Pediatric (AAP) 2009 guidelines for the administration of Synagis®. As stated in the AAP 2009 guidelines, "The recommendations remain unchanged for infants with congenital heart disease (CHD), chronic lung disease of prematurity (CLD [formerly called bronchopulmonary dysplasia]), and birth before 32 weeks' 0 days' gestation." A maximal number of five (5) doses is allowed for infants with hemodynamically significant CHD, CLD, or birth before 32 weeks' 0 days' gestation. This is consistent with SCDHHS current policy. The change in SCDHHS policy applies to infants who do not meet those criteria. A maximum of three (3) doses is allowed for infants with a gestational age of 32 weeks and 0 days to 34 weeks and 6 days who do not have CLD or hemodynamically significant CHD but have at least one of two (AAP) defined risk factors:

- Infant attends child care, or
- Siblings or other young children who permanently live in the household and who are less than 5 years of age.

Infants with a gestational age of 32 weeks 0 days through 34 weeks 6 days who do not have CLD or hemodynamically significant CHD born within 3 months before the start of the Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) season or at any time throughout the RSV season will qualify for prophylaxis under these recommendations if they have at least one of the two risk factors listed above. These infants should receive prophylaxis only until they reach 90 days of age or a maximum of three (3) doses, whichever comes first.

The AAP guidelines can be found at [www.aap.org](http://www.aap.org). Prior approval by the SCDHHS Medical Director will still be required for any dose over the limit of five or any dose administered after the RSV season.

If you have any questions regarding this bulletin or any other Medicaid billing or policy questions, please contact your program representative at either the Division of Physician Services at (803) 898-2660, or Hospital Services at (803) 898-2665. Thank you for your continued support and participation in the South Carolina Medicaid program.

/S/  
Emma Forkner  
Director

**Note:** To receive Medicaid bulletins by email, please register at <http://bulletin.scdhhs.gov/>. To sign up for Electronic Funds Transfer of your Medicaid payment, please go to <http://www.dhhs.state.sc.us/dhhsnew/hipaa/index.asp> and select "Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) for instructions.

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