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To: All Providers and Associations

RE: Synagis® Criteria

Alabama Medicaid has updated its prior authorization criteria for Synagis®. The approval time frame for Synagis® will begin October 1, 2007 and will be effective through March 31, 2008. A total of up to five (5) doses will be allowed per recipient in this timeframe. There are no circumstances that will allow for approval of a sixth dose. If a dose was administered in an inpatient setting, the date the dose was administered must be included on the request form. In addition, Medicaid accepts the following as risk factors for infants less than six (6) months old with gestational age of 33-35 weeks:

- Childcare attendance
- School-age siblings
- Congenital abnormalities of the airways
- Severe neuromuscular disease
- Exposure to environmental air pollutants (Environmental air pollutants will not include second-hand smoke. Environmental air pollutants must include instances where a child is *constantly* exposed to particulate air matter)

For approval of requests, the recipient must meet gestational and chronological age requirements. In order to meet chronological age requirements, the recipient must be the required age at the start of the RSV season.

Requests for Synagis® will be submitted on a separate prior authorization form and may be accepted beginning September 1, 2007. The form and complete updated criteria specific to Synagis® are available on our website at www.medicaid.alabama.gov under Programs: Pharmacy: Prior Authorizations/Override Criteria and Forms: Instruction Booklet for Form 369 and Form 351. Additional questions regarding Synagis® criteria can be directed to Health Information Designs at (800) 748-0130.

August 15, 2007