@today@

Dear @insurance@

This letter should serve as a request to administer palivizumab (Synagis) therapy for @name@. Palivizumab is medically necessary for this patient and is an FDA-approved product for the prophylaxis of severe respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) disease in infants and children at high risk for severe RSV disease. Palivizumab has been shown to produce a significant reduction in the incidence of RSV-related hospitalization and ICU admissions among hospitalized infants compared with placebo recipients.

**Patient history and diagnosis**

@name@ is a @gestational age@ with additional risks of \*\*\* (can include a drop down list for providers to chose from with criteria for Synagis). For these reasons **he/she requires palivizumab to reduce his/her** risk of contracting RSV.

**Medical Necessity of therapy**

Palivizumab is indicated for the prevention of serious lower respiratory tract infection caused by RSV in children with a history of prematurity (29 weeks of age or younger) who are less than 12 months of age at the start of the RSV season, children with chronic lung disease of infancy who are born at 32 weeks gestational age or younger, children with anatomic pulmonary abnormalities or neuromuscular disease during the first year of life, children who are profoundly immunocompromised or have had a heart transplant, or any child born with clinically significant congenital heart disease during the first year of life. Palivizumab is routinely administered only during periods of high rates of community circulation of RSV which November 1st through March 31st in the middle Atlantic region of the country. However, this year we are currently seeing an early start to the RSV season with positivity rates of 14% reported by the Alfred I duPont Hospital for Children microbiology lab, our local reference laboratory. Other children’s hospitals in our area are reporting positivity rates as high as 25%. These rates are consistent with the start of the RSV season in prior years before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sincerely,