Children’s Hospital and Health System  
Chorus Community Health Plans (CCHP)  
Policy and Procedure

This policy applies to the following entity(s):

☐ CHW – Milwaukee
☐ CHHS Foundation
☐ CHW – Community Services Division
☐ Children’s Medical Group - Primary Care
☐ Children’s Medical Group - Urgent Care
☐ CHW - Fox Valley
☐ CHW - Surgicenter
☐ CHW - Community Services Division
☐ Children’s Specialty Group
☐ CHHS Corporate Departments

Medical Utilization Management Policy

SUBJECT: PALIVIZUMAB

INCLUDED PRODUCT(S):

Medicaid
☒ BadgerCare Plus
☐ Commercial

Individual and Family
☒ Commercial
☐ Marketplace

PURPOSE OR DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of this policy is to define criteria when CCHP considers Palivizumab medically necessary.

Palivizumab is a recombinant monoclonal antibody to respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).

RSV season as defined by the State of Wisconsin and Forward Health runs annually from November 1st through April 30th.

A patient may be approved for up to 5 doses of palivizumab during RSV season.

If a child receiving monthly palivizumab prophylaxis experiences a breakthrough RSV hospitalization, monthly prophylaxis will be discontinued.

POLICY:

Effective: 10/19  
Last reviewed: 10/23

Developed by: CCHP Medical Directors
Palivizumab may be indicated for 1 or more of the following:

1) **Prematurity**: Infant born before 29 weeks gestation and younger than 1 year at beginning of RSV season

2) **Pulmonary abnormalities and neuromuscular disease**: Infant younger than 12 months at the start of RSV season, with 1 or more of the following conditions that impair the ability to clear secretions from the upper airway because of an ineffective cough:
   a) Congenital airway abnormalities
   b) Neuromuscular disease that compromises airway clearance

3) **Chronic lung disease**: Infant or child with chronic lung disease of prematurity (i.e., bronchopulmonary dysplasia), and 1 or more of the following:
   a) Younger than 12 months at the start of RSV season and ALL of the following:
      i) Gestational age at delivery is before 32 weeks gestation
      ii) Required supplemental oxygen greater than 21% for at least the first 28 days after birth
   b) Between 12 and 24 months of age at the start of RSV season and ALL of the following:
      i) Gestational age at delivery is before 32 weeks gestation
      ii) Required supplemental oxygen greater than 21% for at least the first 28 days after birth
      iii) Required medical support (corticosteroid, diuretic, or supplemental oxygen) during the 6 month period before the start of the RSV season

4) **Immunocompromised**: Infant or young child with ALL of the following:
   a) Younger than 24 months of age at the start of the RSV season
   b) Profoundly immunocompromised as a result of, but not limited to, any of the following conditions:
      i) Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)
      ii) Active chemotherapy
      iii) Solid organ transplant
      iv) Stem cell transplant

5) **Cardiac transplant**: Infant or young child with ALL of the following:
   a) Younger than 24 months at the start of the RSV season
   b) Scheduled to undergo cardiac transplantation during the RSV season

6) **Congenital heart disease**: Infant younger than 12 months at the start of RSV season, with hemodynamically significant heart disease, as indicated by 1 or more of the following:
   a) Aciyanotic heart disease and receiving medication for heart failure
   b) Moderate to severe pulmonary hypertension
   c) Written recommendation by pediatric cardiologist that child should receive prophylaxis against RSV

Palivizumab will only be authorized for injections administered during the RSV season starting November 1st and ending April 30th. The total number of injections is limited to five per member per season.

**REFERENCES:**

1. American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Infectious Diseases, American Academy of Pediatrics Bronchiolitis Guidelines Committee. Updated guidance for palivizumab prophylaxis among infants and young children at increased risk of hospitalization for