

Children's Hospital Oakland In-Patient Synagis Policy 2010-2011 Season
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Synagis (Palivizumab) is a HIGH cost medication that requires special care in preparation, distribution, and billing, to minimize cost and optimize reimbursement. Cost of one 100 mg vial of Synagis is approximately \$1500.

The Synagis Program starts the first Tuesday in November and ends the last Thursday in April.

Synagis clinic is Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday for the 2010-2011 season. Clinic days may vary year to year and IF the Clinic is closed for a Holiday the Monday or Friday of that week may be a clinic day.

IMPORTANT:

Planning ahead for patient's discharge is IMPERATIVE to avoid wastage of a whole vial because the hospital will likely not be reimbursed for inpatient use of this drug. This means:

- Please order Synagis for inpatient use on the days of Clinic. Avoid, if at all possible, from ordering Synagis on non-clinic days to help reduce drug wastage and save costs.

ORDERING SYNAGIS/DELIVERY:

- DOCTORS: please order using patient's most *current* weight & provide the date of planned administration in the comment section on the order screen
- Orders received prior to 12 Noon are delivered to the floor between 1200 and 1300
 - The nurse signs for receipt
- Orders received after 12N are delivered after the Clinic has closed, usually around 4PM
 - The nurse signs for receipt
- Receipts are kept in the Synagis file in the Main Pharmacy so that a record will be readily available if the dose is missing.
- Misplaced doses will be charged to the nursing unit, not the patient

NURSING:

- Nursing may call Research Pharmacy x2971 if the dose fails to be delivered at the designated time
- Doses greater than 150mg (1.5ml) are divided into two or more doses of equal volume
- Store med in the refrigerator until 20 minutes before administration
- The med is delivered in a 3-ml syringe with a 25 gauge, 5/8-inch SafetyGlide needle
- Administration: anterolateral aspect of the thigh
- After administration, patient should be monitored closely for hypersensitivity reactions. The most frequent side effects (>1%):
 - Cardiovascular: Arrhythmia, cyanosis
 - Central nervous system: Fever, nervousness
 - Dermatologic: Rash, redness/swelling at injection site
 - Gastrointestinal: Diarrhea, gastroenteritis, vomiting
 - Hepatic: AST increased
 - Otic: Otitis media
 - Respiratory: Cough, rhinitis, upper respiratory infection, wheezing