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October 27, 2023

Re: Payment for new CPT codes for Nirsevimab and its administration

Dear Payer:

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I am writing on behalf of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), a non-profit professional organization of 67,000 primary care pediatricians, pediatric medical subspecialists, and pediatric surgical specialists dedicated to the health, safety, and well-being of infants, children, adolescents, and young adults, regarding appropriate coding and payment for the prevention of RSV with the landmark monoclonal antibody nirsevimab.

As stated in our letter dated August 23, 2023, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) voted unanimously in favor of recommending the use of nirsevimab in infants under 8 months of age in their first RSV season and for high-risk patients under 19 months of age in their second RSV season. RSV remains the leading cause of hospitalization among US infants this respiratory illness season. Given last year's unprecedented surge in RSV, and this is the first RSV season where nirsevimab is available, the AAP strongly urges you to proactively take all necessary steps to protect infants and toddlers from severe RSV disease. As such, payers must remove all barriers to access to nirsevimab and support recommended care for children by paying for administering nirsevimab, palivizumab, or both to children as deemed necessary by their pediatrician.

On October 6th, 2023, the AMA updated their CPT guidelines to reflect the approval of two new codes relating to the administration of nirsevimab; these codes were immediately effective. We urge you to promptly update your payment systems and coding guidance with the following approved CPT and ICD10 codes:

| CPT Code   | Descriptor   |
|------------|--|
| 90380      | Respiratory syncytial virus, monoclonal antibody, seasonal dose; 0.5 mL dosage, for intramuscular use  |
| 90381      | Respiratory syncytial virus, monoclonal antibody, seasonal dose; 1 mL dosage, for intramuscular use  |
| 96380      | Administration of respiratory syncytial virus, monoclonal antibody, seasonal dose by intramuscular injection, with counseling by physician or other qualified health care professional |
| 96381      | Administration of respiratory syncytial virus, monoclonal antibody, seasonal dose by intramuscular injection   |
| ICD10 Code | Descriptor   |
| Z29.11     | Encounter for prophylactic immunotherapy for respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)   |

Please note that HIPPA administration simplification guidelines<sup>1</sup> state, “A health plan must accept and process any standard transaction that contains valid codes.” This means the nirsevimab administration codes above should be paid when reported.

As per the recommendations to CMS by the American Medical Association/Specialty Society Relative Value Scale Update Committee (RUC), we ask that you recognize that the resource costs are like those required to provide other immunization administrative services (i.e., CPT codes 90460 and 90471) and pay the new codes appropriately pending final RVU valuation by CMS.

As with all ACIP-recommended immunizations, any plans that fall under the Affordable Care Act's<sup>2</sup> protection must cover immunizations at no cost share to the patient; as such, modifier 33 should not be required to adjudicate the claims.

Thank you for your continued partnership to support recommended RSV prophylaxis for infants and toddlers during the current RSV season.

If you have questions, need additional information, or would like to arrange a follow-up discussion on the AAP guidance on nirsevimab and palivizumab prophylaxis<sup>3</sup>, please contact Stefanie Muntean-Turner, Health Policy & Coding Specialist at [Smunteanturner@aap.org](mailto:Smunteanturner@aap.org) or 630-626-6790.

Sincerely,



Sandy Chung, MD, FAAP President  
SC/smt

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/hipaa-admin-simp-regulations-fact-sheet.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.cms.gov/ccio/resources/fact-sheets-and-faqs/aca\\_implementation\\_faqs18](https://www.cms.gov/ccio/resources/fact-sheets-and-faqs/aca_implementation_faqs18)

<sup>3</sup> <https://publications.aap.org/redbook/resources/25379/>