

## **RSV Prevention Update**

### **Neighborhood News – January 2024**

Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island (Neighborhood) is updating its prevention strategy for the 2023-24 Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) season. Neighborhood now prefers Beyfortus (nirsevimab) over Synagis for RSV prevention. Beyfortus is administered once every six months and is intended for all neonates and infants entering their first RSV season, as well as children up to 24 months in age who are high risk.

Beyfortus will not require prior authorization and will be available as a state-supplied vaccine.

For prescribers opting for Synagis, which requires six consecutive monthly injections, an authorization will be necessary. This should include documentation explaining why Beyfortus isn't suitable for the member, along with clinical information justifying the need for Synagis.

**Neighborhood's Pharmacy Department is closely monitoring current Beyfortus supply levels. If there is any shortage of Beyfortus, Synagis will be approved for members who meet the prior authorization criteria.**