

August 2024

Business Updates



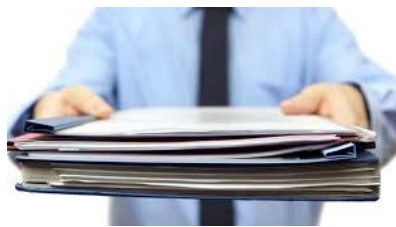
Fewer Prior Authorization Requirements for fecal transplant to treat recurrent clostridium difficile colitis

At Kaiser Permanente, we recognize that prior authorization requirements are burdensome to our network partners and can delay care for our members. Therefore, we strive to encourage appropriate care and manage the rising cost of healthcare through other means whenever possible. We also regularly review our existing medical policies that establish medical necessity criteria to determine which may not be needed. Over the past year and a half, we have “retired” approximately two dozen policies. As an example, we recently eliminated the medical policy dealing with criteria for fecal transplant to treat recurrent clostridium difficile colitis. We don’t believe healthcare providers or patients are over-utilizing this procedure, and we don’t want to create barriers or delays to necessary treatment – especially true for time-sensitive conditions like infections. But the job isn’t done! Kaiser Permanente remains committed to facilitating the high-quality care you provide to our members, and we welcome your suggestions on which prior authorizations are creating administrative burden without providing value to our members. Email us your recommendations at medicalpolicycommittee_kpwa@kp.org. Or, if you have other ideas on how we can better partner with your practice, please send them to kpwa.provider-services@kp.org.



Credentialing Requirements for Durable Medical Equipment Providers

The National Committee on Quality Assurance (NCQA) has advised Durable Medical Equipment (DME) providers are to be considered within the scope of an entity’s credentialing program for accreditation purposes. Starting August 2024, credentialing of Kaiser Permanente’s existing Durable Medical Equipment Providers and Prosthetic and Orthotic Suppliers (DMEPOS) network will begin. If you have any questions, please contact the Provider Assistance Unit at 1-888-767-4670.



Submission of Supporting Documentation

Kaiser Permanente would like to improve the facilitation of supporting documentation required to process certain claims. To do this, we are asking for your help to improve claims submissions.

Provider E-News

Provider Services Department



August 2024

When submitting supporting documentation to Kaiser Permanente via email or fax, we are requesting the claim number and type of documentation to be provided in the subject line of the submission. For example:

Subject: **Claim Number – Document Type**

Document Types include:

- Itemized Bill
- Medical Record
- Payment Dispute
- Appeal

Adding the document type to the subject line will help us identify what is being sent and the responsible party for your submission.

When the 277 acknowledgement is received with the claim number, providers can use the established submission methods to submit the documentation with the required claim number and documentation type. Thank you for your assistance in helping us to process your claims submissions in a timely manner.



Upcoming Physician Talk: How to Nourish Your Body and Gut (in Chinese)

Understanding the importance of delivering culturally competent care and improving the health of communities we serve, Kaiser Permanente Washington is pleased to host a physician talk **entirely in Chinese (Mandarin)**.

Led by Dr. Ruolan Liu, the discussion on **How to Nourish Your Body and Gut**, will provide tools and information on how to optimize personal health in Chinese language. This free 30-minute webinar is open to all people regardless of health plan coverage.

The talk will be offered on Thursday, August 22, 2024 from 9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. PDT. See these flyers ([Chinese](#), [English](#)) for additional information and registration in Chinese and English, or [register now](#).

August 2024

Clinical Updates



Screening for hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection in adults

An estimated 580,000 to 2.4 million persons are living with HBV infection in the United States, and two-thirds of them are unaware of their infection. Chronic HBV infection increases the risk of liver cancer and cirrhosis, with infected individuals 70–85% more likely to die prematurely than the general population. Early detection through screening can significantly reduce morbidity, mortality, and transmission. Recent [CDC guidelines](#) have shifted from risk-based to universal screening for adults, which represents a significant shift in clinical practice.

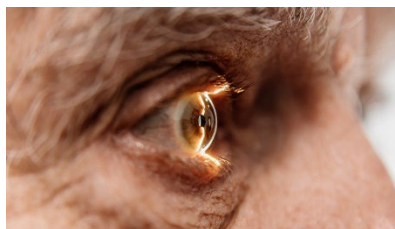
Read our [Clinical Pearl](#) for more details and HBV screening recommendations for adults.

Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute News



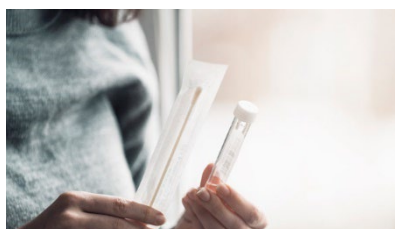
Identifying patients in need of social support services

A new predictive model helps connect adults with multiple chronic health conditions to community services. Kaiser Permanente researchers developed a tool to help identify adults who may have these social risks and who may benefit from direct social screening outreach and referral to community programs for assistance.



Alzheimer's vision study improved with home testing

There is conflicting research on the strength of relationships between retinal biomarkers and Alzheimer's disease and related types of dementia. Researchers are studying the correlation between retinal changes and development of dementia.



Increasing access to cervical cancer screening in low-resource health care settings

Each year in the United States, there are 14,000 new cases of cervical cancer — almost all caused by the human papilloma virus (HPV) — and over 4,000 people die of this cancer. This new study builds on findings that home tests improve screening rates.

Provider Notices

Provider E-News

Provider Services Department



August 2024



Notices can be viewed on our [Provider Notices](#) page on the [Kaiser Permanente provider site](#). Please check our provider site on a regular basis for provider manual changes and updates. We communicate changes to the [Provider Manual](#) in the [Provider eNews](#) for your convenience. However, it is your responsibility to remain updated on any changes by visiting our site regularly for updates on our policies and procedures.

- [Advanced practice healthcare providers](#)
- [Modifiers](#)
- [Changes to medical necessity review criteria for Shoulder Arthroplasty](#)
- [Changes to medical necessity review criteria for Gastric Electrical Stimulation](#)
- [Changes to medical necessity review criteria for Cytochrome P450 Pharmacogenetics](#)
- [Changes to medical necessity review criteria for high-end imaging site of care](#)
- [Changes to medical necessity review criteria for low-dose ct screening for lung cancer](#)
- [Changes to medical necessity review criteria for Bariatric Surgery](#)
- [Lymphocyte immune globulin \(Atgam\) will require prior authorization approval](#)
- [Medicare Part B: mirikizumab-mrkz \(Omvoh\) requiring prior authorization](#)
- [Changes to medical necessity review criteria for New and Emerging Technology](#)
- [Changes to medical necessity review criteria for treatments for Lower Limb Prostheses](#)
- [Changes to medical necessity review criteria for treatments for Bone Lengthening Procedures](#)
- [Changes to medical necessity review criteria for treatments for Radiation Therapy for Palmar Fibromatosis](#)
- [Changes to medical necessity review criteria for treatments for Superficial Radiation Therapy](#)
- [Changes to medical necessity review criteria for treatments for Sleep Studies](#)
- [Changes to medical necessity review criteria for treatments for Transcutaneous Electrical Stimulation \(TENS\) devices](#)

Provider E-News

Provider Services Department



August 2024

EFT Deposit & Check Mailing Dates



EFT Deposit & Check Mail Dates

Provider reimbursement checks are scheduled to be deposited ACH or mailed on the following dates. Mailed checks should arrive within approximately 3 business days.

January 1, 19, 25	July 5, 11, 18, 25
February 1, 7, 15, 23, 29	August 1, 7, 15, 22, 29
March 7, 14, 21, 28	September 6, 12, 19, 26
April 4, 11, 18, 25	October 7, 10, 17, 24, 31
May 7, 9, 16, 23, 31	November 7, 14, 21, 29
June 6, 13, 20, 27	December 5, 12, 19, 27

Kaiser Permanente Holidays

New Year's Day Monday, January 1
Martin Luther King Jr. Day Monday, January 15
Presidents' Day Monday, February 19
Memorial Day Monday, May 27
Independence Day Thursday, July 4
Labor Day Monday, September 2
Thanksgiving Thursday, November 28
Christmas Wednesday, December 25

Provider Resources



Submit a [Provider Update Form](#) to inform us of changes to your practice.



View our [Provider Directory](#).



Learn more about our [Specialty Services](#).



Read our latest [Formulary Decision Highlights](#).



View our 7 formularies on our [Formulary](#) page or [ePocrates](#).



Register for one of our many [Continuing Medical Education](#) offerings.