

Provider E-News

Provider Services Department



July 2026

Business Updates



Reducing PPO Prior Authorization Burden

To support AHIP commitments and further reduce administrative burden, Kaiser Permanente is removing prior authorization requirements for 351 codes **for PPO members only**. Prior authorization for other lines of business remain unchanged.

This change is designed to simplify processes for providers, allowing more time to focus on delivering high-quality care, while also improving timely access to services for our members. By streamlining requirements, we aim to enhance the overall care experience for both patients and care teams.

Please remember that requirements can vary by service. Our [Code Check Tool](#) is available to help you quickly verify prior authorization and medical necessity review requirements at any time on the Kaiser Permanente Provider website.



Use Kaiser Permanente's ambulatory infusion therapy plan templates and standard order forms to submit orders

To support safe, consistent, and timely processing of infusion orders for Kaiser Permanente Washington members, we ask that all ambulatory infusion orders be submitted using the [Kaiser Permanente therapy plan templates and standard order forms](#) available on our provider website.

These standardized templates contain the clinical requirements, screening labs, pre-medications, and infusion related guidance that have been reviewed and approved for administration within Kaiser Permanente infusion centers. Utilizing these forms helps ensure complete orders are received, reduces delays in care, and supports patient safety.

Once completed, please fax the therapy plan/order to:
Kaiser Permanente Riverfront Infusion Center
Fax: 509-324-7168

If your clinic currently uses an alternative order form, we request that future infusion referrals for Kaiser Permanente patients be submitted using the [therapy plan templates](#) available through the provider website. Ordering providers must place and follow up on suggested labs in the form.

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Using these standardized forms helps:

- Ensure all required clinical information is included
- Support compliance with Kaiser Permanente's approved infusion standards
- Reduce back-and-forth communication for order clarification
- Minimize delays in scheduling and treatment
- Promote safe administration of infusion therapies

We appreciate your partnership and support!

Clinical Updates



Medicare GLP-1 Bridge Program

Kaiser Permanente is participating in CMS's new Medicare GLP-1 Bridge Program, an 18-month pilot to expand access to GLP-1 medications for weight management. The timeline for the pilot is from July 1, 2026 – December 31, 2027.

The member cost-share for the pilot is \$50/30 day supply. Please note that the administration of the Bridge program is outside of Medicare Advantage and the standard Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit. CMS is directly notifying patients and providers of approvals and denials.

Members may access GLP-1 medications under the Bridge program if they:

- Are enrolled in a Medicare Part D plan
 - *Members who are currently covered or who are eligible for coverage under Part D plan are not eligible for CMS Bridge Program.*
- Meet CMS-defined clinical criteria (reviewed at [Medicare GLP-1 Bridge | CMS](#));
- Have a prescription and prior authorization submitted by an authorized prescriber.

Medications included in the Medicare GLP-1 Bridge program:

- Wegovy injection (KP preferred)
- Wegovy tablets (KP non-preferred; preferred over Foundayo tablets)
- Zepbound Kwikpen (KP non-preferred)
- Foundayo (KP non-preferred)

All prescriptions for GLP-1 sent to Kaiser Permanente pharmacies will be processed under the Medicare Part D plan unless providers request processing under the Bridge Program.

Patients can access more information on the [Medicare Weight Loss Drugs page](#) and providers can access more information on the [Medicare GLP-1 Bridge page](#).

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Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute (KPWHRI) News



[Eye changes may signal Alzheimer's disease risk](#)

A [new study](#) adds to the evidence that age-related changes in the eyes may provide clues about Alzheimer's disease risk. Researchers found that older adults with more severe signs of age-related macular degeneration (AMD) in eye exams had a higher chance of developing Alzheimer's, regardless of whether they had a formal diagnosis of AMD.

Provider Notices



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.

- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR APPLIED BEHAVIORAL ANALYSIS THERAPY](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR HYSTERECTOMY](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR BONE GRAFT SUBSTITUTES](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR CARDIAC ELECTROPHYSIOLOGIC PROCEDURES](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR LYMPHEDEMA DECONGESTIVE THERAPY](#)
- [PPO PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENT CHANGES](#)
- [MEDICARE PART B DRUGS REQUIRING PRIOR AUTHORIZATION](#)
- [ONCOLOGY PRODUCTS UPDATED PRIOR AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR AMBULATORY SURGERY CENTER SITE OF CARE](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR CERVICAL FUSION PROCEDURES](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR STEREOTACTIC RADIATION](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR SHOULDER ARTHROPLASTY](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS](#)

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EFT Deposit & Check Mailing Dates



2026 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 2, 7, 8, 15, 23, 29

July 2, 8, 9, 16, 23, 30

February 5, 12, 20, 26

August 6, 13, 20, 27

March 5, 12, 19, 26

September 8, 11, 17, 24

April 2, 7, 9, 16, 23, 30

October 1, 7, 8, 15, 22, 29

May 7, 14, 21, 29

November 5, 13, 19, 27

June 4, 11, 18, 25

December 7, 10, 17, 24, 31

Holidays

New Year's Day

Monday, January 1

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Monday, January 19

Presidents' Day

Monday, February 16

Memorial Day

Monday, May 25

Independence Day

Friday, July 3 (observed)

Labor Day

Monday, September 7

Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 26

Christmas

Friday, 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.