

Provider E-News

Provider Services Department



September 2026

Business Updates



Authorization Process Enhancements

As part of our CMS 2.0 initiative, we are implementing enhancements to our authorization processes to support regulatory compliance, improve consistency in authorization determinations, and streamline the provider experience. Unified Authorization Requirements (UAR) establishes a centralized source of truth for authorization requirements and supports consistent determination of authorization requirements across utilization management, claims adjudication, benefits administration, and provider workflows.

As part of this implementation, authorization requests will continue to generate an authorization record. However, when a requested service meets established Unified Authorization criteria indicating that prior authorization is not required, the authorization will receive a determination status of "No Authorization Required" with the reason "No Authorization Required for Service." A determination of "No Authorization Required" means that, based on current authorization requirements, the requested service does not require prior authorization.

Please note that authorization requirements are subject to applicable benefit, provider, service, and regional considerations. As a result, authorization information obtained through self-service resources may differ from the determination for a specific request.

Claims for these services will continue to be processed through standard claims adjudication and remain subject to member eligibility, benefit coverage, coding requirements, and all other applicable claim processing requirements.

If you have additional questions regarding authorization requirements or claim processing, please contact the Provider Assistance Unit at 1-888-767-4670, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Clinical Updates



Filkri is Kaiser Permanente's Preferred Filgrastim Product

Filkri (filgrastim-laha) is now Kaiser Permanente's preferred short acting granulocyte colony stimulating factor (GCSF) product. In most cases, Filkri is a more affordable option for patients with Commercial or Medicare coverage who pay a co-insurance for their medicines.

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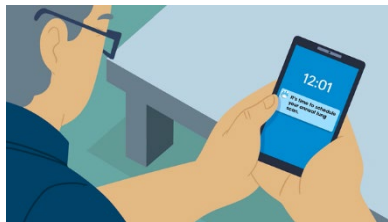
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Please note that patients with a documented latex allergy should be prescribed Granix (tbo-filgrastim), as Filkri is **not** latex free. Transition to Filkri should begin as soon as possible to preserve supply of Granix for those with a documented latex allergy.

Recommended Conversion Table:

If patient is on this:	Convert to this:
Granix (tbo-filgrastim) PFS <i>All doses and sigs</i>	→ Filkri (filgrastim-laha) PFS <i>All doses and sigs</i>

Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute (KPWHRI) News



[Doctor and patient reminders improve lung cancer screening](#)

For people at higher risk of lung cancer, staying on track with screening can be lifesaving, yet many do not get annual lung scans. A new Kaiser Permanente Washington study found that well-timed reminders to doctors and patients helped more people return for yearly screening.

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 TOTAL HIP ARTHROPLASTY](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR SHOULDER ARTHROSCOPY](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR LUMBAR SPINE FUSION](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR NEXT GENERATION SEQUENCING](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR EXTERNAL LOOP RECORDER](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR EXTERNAL DEEP BRAIN STIMULATION](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR ADVANCED RADIATION THERAPY](#)

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- [UPDATED PRIOR AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA FOR NUSINERSEN \(SPINRAZA\)](#)
- [GROWTH HORMONES NOT COVERED UNDER THE MEDICAL BENEFIT, MAY BE COVERED UNDER PHARMACY BENEFIT](#)
- [HEMIN \(PANHEMATIN\) WILL REQUIRE PRIOR AUTHORIZATION APPROVAL](#)
- [CANAKINUMAB \(ILARIS\) NOT COVERED UNDER THE MEDICAL BENEFIT](#)
- [UPDATED PRIOR AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA FOR TOCILIZUMAB \(ACTEMRA\) AND TOCILIZUMAB-AAZG \(TYENNE\)](#)
- [MEDICARE PART B DRUGS REQUIRING STEP THERAPY](#)
- [MEDICARE PART B DRUGS REQUIRING PRIOR AUTHORIZATION](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR TOTAL KNEE ARTHROPLASTY](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR VERICOSE VEINS TREATMENTS](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR WHOLE EXOME SEQUENCING](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR PET SCAN CRITERIA](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR UPPER LIMB PROSTHESIS](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR LOWER EXTREMITY REVASCULARIZATION PROCEDURES](#)
- [CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR CPAP DEVICES](#)

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

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Provider Resources



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



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



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



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