

CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR CERVICAL SPINE FUSION

This notification applies to the following networks: *Commercial HMO, POS, PPO and Medicare Advantage*

A listing of all networks can be found on the provider website at <https://wa-provider.kaiserpermanente.org/communications/letters>

Effective March 1, 2023, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington and Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington Options, Inc. (Kaiser Permanente) are updating the Cervical Spinal Fusion criteria.

Explanation of the change:

Clinical review criteria for the Cervical Spinal Fusion have been revised to clarify conservative management to include quantifying number of physical therapy visits.

Clinical review criteria can be found on the Kaiser Permanente provider website at: <https://wa-provider.kaiserpermanente.org/static/pdf/hosting/clinical/criteria/pdf/cervical-fusion.pdf>

What will I need to do differently for my patients with the following Kaiser Permanente health plans?

- KFHPWA Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) members: Prior authorization is required.
- KFHPWAO Point of Service (POS) members: Prior authorization is required for in-network coverage.
- KFHPWAO Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) members: Prior authorization is required.
- Medicare Advantage: Prior authorization is required.

Questions: Contact Provider Assistance Unit at 1-888-767-4670, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington Options, Inc.

<CONTRACT MANAGER NAME>

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