

## **CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR EPIDURAL STEROID INJECTIONS (ESI)**

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 August 1, 2023**, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington and Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington Options, Inc. (Kaiser Permanente) will implement clinical review criteria for Epidural Steroid Injections (ESI) for Medicare and non-Medicare members.

### **Explanation of the change:**

Kaiser Permanente has developed medical necessity review criteria for Epidural Steroid Injections (ESI).

Clinical review criteria can be found on the Kaiser Permanente provider website at: [https://wa-provider.kaiserpermanente.org/static/pdf/hosting/clinical/criteria/pdf/epidural\\_injections.pdf](https://wa-provider.kaiserpermanente.org/static/pdf/hosting/clinical/criteria/pdf/epidural_injections.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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