

CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR GENDER AFFIRMING SURGERIES

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 November 1, 2023, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington and Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington Options, Inc. (Kaiser Permanente) are updating clinical review criteria for gender affirming surgeries.

Explanation of the change:

Clinical review criteria for gender affirming surgeries have been updated to include alignment with World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH) in regards to referral letter requirements. The updates also include a change to the hormone therapy requirement for facial and body hair removal criteria.

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