

CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR THYROID SURGERIES

Applies to: Commercial - HMO POS PPO Medicare Advantage

Network list: <https://wa-provider.kaiserpermanente.org/communications/letters>

Effective January 1, 2025, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington and Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington Options, Inc. (Kaiser Permanente) are implementing a new Thyroid Surgeries policy.

Explanation of the change:

Kaiser Permanente is implementing a new Thyroid Surgeries policy that considers thyroidectomy and parathyroidectomy medically necessary when indications are met. A medical necessity review is required in addition to the current review requirement for the level of care.

To review the Thyroid Surgeries clinical review criteria please visit the Kaiser Permanente provider website at:

<https://wa-provider.kaiserpermanente.org/static/pdf/hosting/clinical/criteria/pdf/thyroid-surgeries.pdf>

Is prior authorization required?

- 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.
Provider Communications, RCR-A3W-04
PO Box 34262, Seattle, WA 98124-1262



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