

CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR CARDIOVASCULAR RISK PANEL

Applies to: Commercial - HMO POS PPO Medicare Advantage

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

Effective May 1, 2026, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington and Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington Options, Inc. (Kaiser Permanente) are updating the medical necessity criteria for Cardiac Risk Assessment.

Explanation of the change:

Kaiser Permanente is updating the Cardiovascular Risk Panel criteria to clarify that multi-marker cardiovascular risk panels are not medically necessary, as they do not improve outcomes beyond standard lipid testing. A basic lipid panel remains the covered standard, with ApoB and Lipoprotein(a) allowed only in limited, guideline-supported scenarios.

To review the Cardiovascular Risk Panel clinical review criteria, please visit the Kaiser Permanente provider website at:

https://wa-provider.kaiserpermanente.org/static/pdf/hosting/clinical/criteria/pdf/cv_riskpanel.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.

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
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