

CHANGES TO MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW CRITERIA FOR NEXT GENERATION SEQUENCING

Applies to: Commercial - HMO ☒ POS ☒ PPO ☒ Medicare Advantage ☐

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

Effective November 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 Next Generation Sequencing.

Explanation of the change:

Kaiser Permanente is updating its Next Generation Sequencing criteria cited on the Genetic Screening and Testing medical policy that expands coverage in alignment with current clinical guidance. The changes add Stage IB non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) and Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumors (GIST) as eligible indications, reflecting evolving NCCN recommendations and oncology input.

To review the Genetic Screening & Testing clinical review criteria, please visit the Kaiser Permanente provider website at:

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