

11/1/2023

Dear Provider,

All of us at Trillium Community Health Plan (Trillium), Health Net Plan of Oregon, Inc. (Health Net), Wellcare By Trillium Advantage (Wellcare), and Wellcare By Health Net (Wellcare) are committed to continuous improvement of quality services for our members. With that in mind, Trillium, Health Net, and Wellcare have expanded our partnership with National Imaging Associates, Inc. (NIA)\*, to implement a Musculoskeletal (MSK) Management program.

The MSK program will include prior authorizations for non-emergent inpatient and outpatient hip, knee, shoulder, lumbar, and cervical spine surgeries for Trillium, Health Net, and Wellcare members. This decision is consistent with industry-wide efforts to ensure clinically appropriate quality of care, and to manage the increasing utilization of these services.

In consideration of the aforementioned agreement, Trillium, Health Net, and Wellcare will terminate our current MSK program and utilization management efforts with TurningPoint as of January 31, 2024.

Under terms of the agreement between Trillium, Health Net, Wellcare, and NIA:

- Trillium, Health Net, and Wellcare will oversee the MSK program and continue to be responsible for claims adjudication and medical policies.
- NIA will manage inpatient and outpatient MSK surgeries through the existing contractual relationships with Trillium, Health Net and Wellcare.

Planned for a February 1, 2024, implementation, this correspondence serves as a notice of program changes under your participating Trillium, Health Net, and Wellcare Provider Agreement.

Providers may begin contacting NIA on February 1, 2024, to seek prior authorization for procedures scheduled on or after February 1, 2024.

*\* Effective 1/20/2023, National Imaging Associates, Inc. is now a subsidiary of Evolent Health. Evolent Health and its affiliates and subsidiaries collectively referred to as "Evolent."*

The following outlines the specific procedures requiring prior authorization:

**MSK Surgeries:** Prior authorization will be required for the following non-emergent inpatient and outpatient MSK surgeries:

#### Hip

- Revision/Conversion Hip Arthroplasty.
- Total Hip Arthroplasty/Resurfacing.
- Femoroacetabular Impingement (FAI) Hip Surgery (includes CAM/pincher and labral repair).
- Hip Surgery – Other (includes synovectomy, loose body removal, debridement, diagnostic hip arthroscopy, and extra-articular arthroscopy knee).

#### Knee

- Revision Knee Arthroplasty.
- Total Knee Arthroplasty (TKA).
- Partial-Unicompartmental Knee Arthroplasty (UKA).
- Knee Manipulation under Anesthesia (MUA).
- Knee Ligament Reconstruction/Repair.
- Knee Meniscectomy/Meniscal Repair/Meniscal Transplant.
- Knee Surgery – Other (includes synovectomy, loose body removal, diagnostic knee arthroscopy, debridement (with or without chondroplasty), lateral release/patellar realignment, and articular cartilage restoration).

#### Shoulder

- Revision Shoulder Arthroplasty.
- Total/Reverse Shoulder Arthroplasty or Resurfacing.
- Partial Shoulder Arthroplasty/Hemiarthroplasty.
- Shoulder Rotator Cuff Repair.
- Shoulder Labral Repair.
- Frozen Shoulder Repair/Adhesive Capsulitis.
- Shoulder Surgery – Other (includes debridement, manipulation, decompression, tenotomy, tenodesis, synovectomy, claviclectomy, and diagnostic shoulder arthroscopy).

#### Lumbar

- Lumbar Microdiscectomy.
- Lumbar Decompression (Laminotomy, Laminectomy, Facetomy, and Foraminotomy).
- Lumbar Spine Fusion (Arthrodesis) with or without Decompression – Single and Multiple Levels.

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## Cervical

- Cervical Anterior Decompression with Fusion – Single and Multiple Levels
- Cervical Posterior Decompression with Fusion – Single and Multiple Levels.
- Cervical Posterior Decompression (without fusion).
- Cervical Artificial Disc Replacement.
- Cervical Anterior Decompression (without fusion)

## KEY PROVISIONS:

- It is the responsibility of the ordering physician to obtain prior authorization for all MSK surgeries managed by NIA.
- NIA does not manage prior authorization for emergency MSK surgery cases that are admitted through the emergency room or for MSK surgery procedures outside of those procedures listed above.
- The ordering physician must obtain prior authorization with NIA prior to performing the surgery/procedure.
- Facility admissions do not require a separate prior authorization. However, the facility should ensure that an NIA prior authorization has been obtained prior to scheduling the surgery/procedure.

MSK procedures other than those outlined above will continue to follow Trillium, Health Net, and Wellcare's prior authorization requirements for hospital admissions and elective surgeries.

We appreciate your support and look forward to your assistance in assuring that Trillium, Health Net, and Wellcare members receive MSK services delivered in a quality, clinically appropriate fashion.

We will provide additional information as we get closer to the implementation date. Should you have questions at this time, please contact:

- Trillium Community Health Plan: 1-877-600-5472
- Health Net Plan of Oregon, Inc.: 1-888-802-7001
- Wellcare By Trillium Advantage: 1-844-867-1156
- Wellcare by Health Net: 1-888-445-8913

You may also contact the Provider Engagement team by emailing [OR\\_Prov\\_Reps@TrilliumCHP.com](mailto:OR_Prov_Reps@TrilliumCHP.com).

Sincerely,

Jeanne Savage MD  
Chief Medical Officer

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