



PROVIDER NOTICE

Provider Relations Department 1-888-895-4998

Expansion of JHHC-eviCore Partnership for Musculoskeletal and Post-Acute Care Programs

New Effective Date (Tentative): Sept. 1, 2022

Health Plans Affected: Johns Hopkins Advantage MD, Priority Partners

Type of Change: Prior Authorization Process

Explanation of Change:

Johns Hopkins HealthCare has partnered with eviCore, adopting the Musculoskeletal (MSK) and Post-Acute Care (PAC) programs for utilization management with a focus on delivering improved patient outcomes, efficiencies and value.

What this means for you:

Beginning Sept. 1, 2022 (tentative), providers in the Johns Hopkins Advantage MD and Priority Partners networks will be required to obtain prior authorization for interventional pain management, spine surgery, joint surgery, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and post-acute care services from eviCore. Providers should submit prior authorization requests via the [eviCore portal*](#) through HealthLINK, the eviCore portal directly, or, if the portal cannot be accessed, by calling eviCore at 866-220-3071 (faxes can also be accepted, please see below for details).

Musculoskeletal (MSK) – Advanced Procedures

eviCore's MSK-Advanced Procedures programscope includes prior authorization review of 1) **interventional pain procedures** (injection procedures, spinal cord stimulator and implantable drug pumps); 2) **open joint procedures, joint replacements and arthroscopic surgeries of large joints** (hip, knee and shoulder); and 3) **spine surgery** (including decompression, fusion, disc arthroplasty, instrumentation).

Authorization Requirements: Medical necessity review and prior authorization will be required for all MSK advanced procedures in scope with eviCore, whether performed in an Ambulatory Surgery Center, or outpatient hospital setting. See the list of [applicable CPT codes](#) under Resources and Guidelines for Priority Partners and Advantage MD. Prior authorization requests should be submitted through the portal, but can also be faxed to 800-540-2406, or by calling eviCore at 866-220-3071.

Musculoskeletal (MSK) – Therapies

The eviCore MSK-Therapies program encompasses prior authorization of physical therapy and occupational therapy.

Authorization Requirements: Authorization will be required after the initial PT/OT assessment/visit (therapy for Priority Partners members under 21 is not covered by Priority Partners). If a patient is already in treatment, please contact eviCore for prior authorization for additional sessions on or after 9/1/2022. See the list of [applicable CPT codes](#) under Resources and Guidelines for Priority Partners and Advantage MD. Prior authorization requests

for PT/OT can be submitted through the portal, faxed to 800-540-2406, or by calling eviCore at 866-220-3071. Please see eviCore portal for clinical worksheets.

Post-Acute Care (PAC)

eviCore's PAC program includes prior authorization and concurrent review of the following post-acute care settings: Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF), Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (IRF), and Long Term Acute Care Hospitals/Chronic Care Hospitals (LTAC).

Authorization Requirements: Hospitals will be required to submit prior authorization requests to eviCore for post-acute care. Please submit prior authorization request as soon as discharge status is determined.

- **IRF and LTAC facilities are responsible for submitting the initial prior authorization for members transitioning to a lower level of care, such as SNF.**
- **PAC Facilities (SNF, IRF and LTAC) are responsible for submitting the initial prior authorization requests for members admitted from the community, emergency department, or outpatient setting, and are responsible for submitting prior authorization for concurrent review requests.**

Prior authorization requests can be submitted through the portal, or faxed to eviCore at 844-216-0198 for initial request, and 877-791-4098 for concurrent review. For urgent transfers or requests, please call eviCore at 866-220-3071 (preferred) or fax to eviCore at 844-216-0198.

Standard requests are processed within 48 hours **after** receipt of all necessary clinical information. Number of prior authorized days at a time are provided according to PAC facility and request type:

Prior authorization	Skilled nursing facility	Inpatient rehab facility	Long-term acute care
Initial	Five (5) calendar days	Five (5) calendar days	Five (5) calendar days
Concurrent	Seven (7) calendar days	Seven (7) calendar days	Seven (7) calendar days

Applicable clinical policies, authorization request forms and clinical worksheets for the Musculoskeletal (MSK) and Post-Acute Care (PAC) Programs will be available on the [eviCore portal](#) prior to implementation.

Registration for Training

We strongly recommend attending a virtual training session for each applicable program. Training sessions require advance registration. Each online training session is free of charge and will last approximately one hour. You only have to register for one session of each program training, as applicable.

To register for and participate in a session:

1. Please go to <http://eviCore.webex.com>.
2. Select "WebEx Training" from the menu bar on the left.
3. Click the "Upcoming" tab. Choose the appropriate session name.
4. Click "Register" next to the session you wish to attend.
5. Enter the registration information.

Johns Hopkins HealthCare Interventional Pain, Spine and Joint Surgery Provider Orientation

- Thursday, Aug. 4: 2-3 p.m. ET

Please contact the JHHC Provider Relations department at 888-895-4998 with any questions or concerns.

- Friday Aug 5: 11 a.m.-12 p.m. ET
- Wednesday, Aug. 10: 10-11 a.m. ET
- Thursday, Aug. 18: 1-2 p.m. ET
- Tuesday, Aug. 23: 11 a.m.-12 p.m. ET
- Thursday, Sept. 1: 12-1 p.m. ET

Johns Hopkins HealthCare Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Provider Orientation

- Wednesday, Aug. 3: 2-3 p.m. ET
- Tuesday, Aug. 9: 1 p.m.-2 p.m. ET
- Monday, Aug. 15: 12-1 p.m. ET
- Wednesday, Aug. 24: 1-2 p.m. ET
- Tuesday, Aug. 30: 11 a.m. -12 p.m. ET
- Thursday, Sept. 8: 12-1 p.m. ET

Johns Hopkins HealthCare Post-Acute Care Provider Orientation

- Tuesday, Aug. 2: 2-3 p.m. ET
- Tuesday, Aug. 9: 11 a.m.-12 p.m. ET
- Wednesday, Aug. 17: 2-3 p.m. ET
- Thursday, Aug. 25: 11 a.m.-12 p.m. ET
- Wednesday, Aug. 31: 2-3 p.m. ET
- Thursday, Sept. 8: 2-3 p.m. ET

After you have registered for the WebEx session, you will receive an email containing the toll-free phone number and meeting number, conference password, and a link to the web portion of the session. **Please keep the registration email** so you will have the link to the WebEx conference and the call-in number for the session in which you will be participating.

**This link is from an external website that is not provided or maintained by or in any way affiliated with JHHC. Please note JHHC does not guarantee the accuracy, relevance, timeliness, or completeness of any information on this external website*

NOTE: The list of CPT/HCPCS codes are for informational purposes and may not be all inclusive. Inclusion or exclusion of a CPT/HCPCS code(s) does not signify or imply that the service described by the code is a covered or non-covered health service. Benefit coverage for health services is determined by the member's specific benefits plan document and applicable laws that may require coverage for a specific service. The inclusion of a code does not imply any right to reimbursement or guarantee of payment. Other policies and coverage determinations may apply.

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