

Musculoskeletal Benefits Management

Evolent's Musculoskeletal (MSK) Solution leverages clinical expertise to manage variation in care, reduce costs and minimize unnecessary surgery and member discomfort.

MSK FOCUS: INTERVENTIONAL PAIN MANAGEMENT AND SURGERY

Our clinically intensive solution ensures appropriateness of musculoskeletal surgery and pain management procedures and promotes the use of appropriate, lower cost settings.

Modalities managed include:

Targeted IPM procedures

- Epidural injections
- Facet joint injections
- Facet neurolysis
- Sacroiliac joint injections
- Spinal cord stimulator (trial, insertion, revision, removal)*
- Sympathetic nerve block*

Place of service*

- Scales the intensity of clinical reviews to meet specific prior authorization program objectives

Targeted MSK surgeries

- Lumbar and cervical spine (single/multiple level fusion and decompression)
- Lumbar artificial disc (multiple levels)*
- Sacroiliac joint infusion*
- Knee (arthroplasty and arthroscopic)
- Hip (arthroplasty and arthroscopic)
- Shoulder (arthroplasty and arthroscopic)

THE EVOLENT DIFFERENCE

- Their intensive management strategies, such as in-depth specialty reviews, facilitate accurate determinations.
- Their specialty surgeons are consultative in ensuring quality of care, avoiding inappropriate surgery and procedures, and reducing potential morbidity.
- Applying powerful analytics and proprietary, evidence-based guidelines, we determine procedure appropriateness and minimize unnecessary care.

- Evidence-informed policies, advanced intake algorithms and specialty matched reviewers guide place of service decisions.
- Complimentary physical medicine product improves quality of life and increases program effectiveness and savings.
- Cost and quality metrics facilitate the identification of high-performing providers and facilities, support provider outreach, and help drive the creation of high-performance networks.
- Their solution is fully accredited by the National Committee for Quality Assurance and URAC.

Clinical Findings

- **1 in 3** interventional pain management procedures (epidural, facet block, facet neurolysis, and sacroiliac joint injection) does not meet medical necessity criteria.
- **1 in 5** spine surgeries does not meet medical necessity criteria.
- **36%** of multiple level lumbar spine fusions do not meet medical necessity criteria.
- **50%** of multiple-level fusion requests that did not meet medical necessity criteria also did not meet medical necessity criteria for an alternate, less-invasive surgery, and 50% were approved for a less-risky and more clinically appropriate procedure.

MSK COST DRIVERS ARE HERE TO STAY

The aging population, obesity and inactivity, defensive medicine, and variations in treatment continue to impact MSK expense growth. Experience shows us that up to a quarter of selective surgeries put members lives at risk.