



January 1, 2025

Dear Provider,

Ambetter Health (Exchange - Iowa) has partnered with Evolent (formerly National Imaging Associates, Inc), a comprehensive Musculoskeletal (MSK) Surgery Quality Management Company, to implement a new prior authorization program. This program is intended to help providers effectively deliver quality patient care.

**Effective January 1, 2025**, MSK surgeries will require prior authorization through Evolent prior to being rendered in outpatient/inpatient hospital or surgery center settings (planned professional services only). This prior authorization management program will apply to **Ambetter Health members of all ages**.

Evolent uses clinical criteria based on nationally recognized guidelines to promote evidence-based practices. Providers may begin contacting Evolent on January 1, 2025, to seek prior authorization for procedures scheduled on or after January 1, 2025.

**The Evolent program will apply to all specialties 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/pincer & 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, 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, diagnostic shoulder arthroscopy).

## Lumbar

- Lumbar Microdiscectomy.
- Lumbar Decompression (Laminotomy, Laminectomy, Facetectomy & Foraminotomy).
- Lumbar Spine Fusion (Arthrodesis) With or Without Decompression – Single & Multiple Levels.
- Sacroiliac Joint Fusion.

## Cervical

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

Prior authorization requests for MSK surgeries can be submitted to Evolent:


- Via Evolent provider portal at [RadMD.com](https://www.radmd.com)
- Via telephone at 1-800-642-2804. Staff is available Monday - Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. CST.


[RadMD](https://www.radmd.com) offers providers the ability to:


- Request prior authorization and verify authorization status.
- Upload required clinical documentation and view submitted files.
- Access clinical guidelines, checklists and additional provider resources and tools.
- Identify the dedicated Evolent Provider Solutions Manager to use as a direct point-of-contact for any issues or questions.


Facility admissions do not require a separate prior authorization. However, the facility should ensure that an Evolent prior authorization has been obtained prior to scheduling the surgery/procedure.

Ambetter Health is proud to be your healthcare partner. If you frequently request Musculoskeletal Surgery services and are new to this process, please register for a training session.

 December 4, 2024 – 8 a.m. CT  
<https://zoom.us/j/91453258240?pwd=aZUIPkxXqjCbr5fRdQh2wgDV6pAqIV.1>  
Meeting ID: 914 5325 8240  
Passcode: 377879

 December 10, 2024 – 12 p.m. CT  
<https://zoom.us/j/92361419692?pwd=ax7fLbz8aJWmXeAb91QO0qIYCPB2Nm.1>  
Meeting ID: 923 6141 9692  
Passcode: 470500

 December 18, 2025 – 12 p.m. CT  
<https://zoom.us/j/92300513874?pwd=8LSkoepu5uqrEwJSoOYAOOneUzM9Buf.1>  
Meeting ID: 923 0051 3874  
Passcode: 177035

 January 8, 2025 – 8 a.m. CT  
<https://zoom.us/j/97944777020?pwd=EJGEpQ2GaXEyU3xhGx2pqKBc2HbgzA.1>  
Meeting ID: 979 4477 7020  
Passcode: 052418

Upon registration you will receive a confirmation email from Evolent for the webinar session you selected.

To take part in the session via telephone, please use the numbers below and the specific meeting ID.

Phone # (US Toll): 646-931-3860

Phone # (US Toll): 309-205-3325

Ambetter Health approved training/education materials are available after logging into [RadMD.com](https://www.radmd.com).

To get started, go to [RadMD.com](https://www.radmd.com), click the “New User” button, select “Physician’s office that orders procedures” and submit a RadMD “Application for a New Account”. Once the application has been processed and a password link delivered by Evolent via e-mail, you will then be invited to create a new password.

If you have questions, please contact Ambetter Health Provider Services Department at 1-833-919-3213. If you have questions about the Evolent Musculoskeletal Surgery program, please email [RadMDSupport@evolent.com](mailto:RadMDSupport@evolent.com) or call 1-800-327-0641.

We look forward to offering you this program and hope it will enhance your experience with authorizations.

Sincerely,

[signee]