

**Frequently Asked Questions:
Interventional Cardiology Services and Procedures
Effective August 1, 2026**

- **Who is Evolent?**

Evolent is a comprehensive cardiology quality management company whose goal is to apply evidence-based treatment to the delivery of cardiology care.

- **What is the Cardiology Quality Management Program?**

The Cardiology Quality Management Program provides prior authorization management for interventional cardiology services rendered in a physician's office, outpatient hospital, and ambulatory or inpatient setting (planned professional services only). The program emphasizes and supports the selection of preferred pathways for patient care, and authorizations are administered by Evolent.

- **What members are included?**

Medicaid members 21 years of age and older.

- **What dates of service are impacted?**

Evolent will review prior authorization requests for dates of service on or after **August 1, 2026**.

- **What services and specialties are included in the program?**

The program will apply to all specialties for the following interventional cardiology services and procedures only:

- Cardiac Catheterization and Intervention
- Electrophysiology
- Peripheral Vascular Radiology and Intervention
- Cardiac Surgery
- Vascular Surgery

- **What are some key features of the program?**

Evolent offers providers:

- Real-time authorizations.
- Real-time status of authorization requests.
- Quick turnaround on authorization requests.
- Physician discussions with specialty matched cardiologists or vascular surgeons.
- Support staff with dedicated provider engagement representatives available to assist.

- **What is the transition of care process?**

Prior authorizations issued before August 1, 2026, are effective until the validity period end date or expiration date. Upon expiration, a new authorization will be required from Evolent for services rendered on and after August 1, 2026.

- **When will Evolent begin accepting interventional cardiology authorization requests?**

Evolent will accept requests beginning August 1, 2026 for services rendered on or after August 1, 2026.

- **Who is responsible for obtaining prior authorization?**

The ordering physician or ordering physician's designated office staff must request prior authorization through Evolent.

- **How do I obtain prior authorization?**

Submit authorization requests to Evolent via:

- The Evolent provider portal at evolent.com/provider-portal, (select RadMD).
- Telephone at 1.866.326.6301 (Mon. – Fri. from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Central).

- **What is the turn-around time (TAT) for processing prior authorization requests?**

TAT is 2 business days for standard requests and 72 calendar hours for expedited requests.

- **Who reviews prior authorization requests for interventional cardiology services and procedures?**

Evolent medical reviewers are licensed cardiologists using nationally recognized clinical guidelines to perform reviews. Clinical guidelines are available at radmd.com/solutions/cardiac-solution.

- **What happens if the prior authorization request does not meet clinical guidelines?**

If the request does not meet evidence-based clinical guidelines, Evolent may request additional information via email, fax, or initiate a physician discussion with the requesting provider.

- **What is the difference between Evolent's tracking and authorization (request ID) numbers?**

- Tracking numbers are issued upon submission of a prior authorization request but prior to determination (approval or denial) of the request. Tracking numbers consist of numeric digits only. The tracking number can be used to find an authorization number (request ID) in Evolent's system once determination is made.
- Authorization numbers or request IDs consist of letters and numbers. The authorization number is available after a determination has been made on a request. Like the tracking number, the authorization number (request ID) can also be used to find a request in Evolent's system. The authorization number should be included when submitting claims.

- **How long are authorizations for the interventional cardiology program valid?**

Authorizations are valid 30 calendar days from the date of request.

- **Which places of service are valid for rendering interventional cardiology services and procedures?**

Physician's office, outpatient hospital, ambulatory, or inpatient setting (planned professional services only) are acceptable places of service for rendering interventional cardiology services and procedures.

- **Does prior authorization guarantee payment?**

No. Prior authorization does not guarantee payment for services. Payment of claims is dependent on eligibility, covered benefits, provider contracts, and correct coding and billing practices. For specific details, please refer to Louisiana Healthcare Connections' provider manuals.

- **Who is responsible for responding to denial appeals?**

Evolut is delegated appeal management. Providers can initiate appeals verbally or in writing within 60 calendar days from the date of the denial.

- **What will happen if the physician does not request and obtain an authorization?**

If authorization is not obtained, Louisiana Healthcare Connections may deny payment for the services.

- **How can a physician's office request training for this program?**

Interventional cardiology information can be found at radmd.com/all-health-plans/louisiana-healthcare-connections. If you have training needs or questions about this Evolut program, please email practicesuccess@evolut.com.

- **How do I contact Evolut authorization support?**

Contact Evolut at 1.866.326.6301 (Mon. – Fri. from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. CST).