

### Alliance Health Musculoskeletal (MSK) Management Program

Provider Webinar Training Presented by: Priscilla Singleton, Senior Provider Relations Manager



# Evolent Program Agenda

### Our MSK Program



**Authorization Process** 



Other Program Components





**Questions and Answers** 

### MSK Prior Authorization Program

For Alliance Health detailed prior authorization requirements, please visit the Alliance Health Procedure Code Look-up Tool at

https://www.alliancehealthplan.org/providers/procedure-code-lookup-tool/



Alliance Health will be partnering with WellCare to begin a prior authorization program through **Evolent** (formerly **National Imaging** Associates, Inc.) for the management of MSK Services.



- Program start date: July 1, 2024
- Alliance Health is waiving prior authorization for dates of service from July 1st through January 31, 2025.
- Begin obtaining an authorization from Evolent on September 1<sup>st</sup> for services scheduled on or after October 1, 2024.



- Inpatient and outpatient hip, knee, shoulder, lumbar and cervical spine surgeries
- **Surgery Center**
- In Office
- Hospital



Medicaid



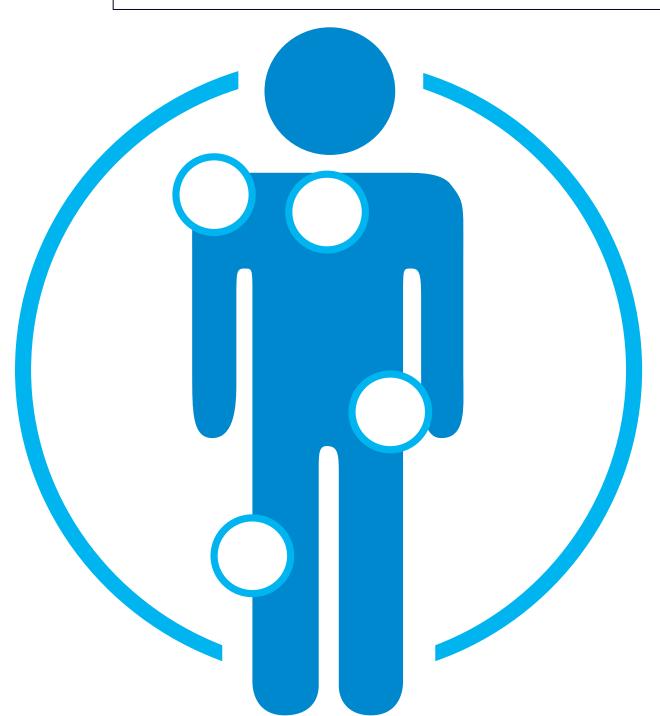
Evolent will manage services through Alliance Health's existing provider contractual relationships.

# Lumbar and Cervical Spine Surgery

### **Lumbar and Cervical Spine Surgeries Performed Inpatient and Outpatient**

- Lumbar Microdiscectomy
- Lumbar Decompression (Laminotomy, Laminectomy, Facetectomy and Foraminotomy)
- Lumbar Spine Fusion (Arthrodesis) With or Without Decompression – Single and Multiple Levels
- 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 Single and Two Levels
- Cervical Anterior Decompression (without fusion)
- Lumbar Artificial Disc Single and Two Levels
- Sacroiliac Joint Fusion

Effective September 1, 2024: Providers may begin contacting Evolent to obtain prior authorization scheduled on or after October 1, 2024.





### Surgery Performed in this Setting is Excluded:

Emergency Surgery –
 admitted via the
 Emergency Department

Reconstructive spinal deformity surgery does not require prior authorization - CPT codes 22800-22819 through Evolent.

# Hip, Knee and Shoulder Surgery

#### **Hip Surgeries Performed Inpatient and Outpatient**

- 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 extraarticular arthroscopy knee)

#### **Knee Surgeries Performed Inpatient and Outpatient**

- 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 Surgeries Performed Inpatient and Outpatient**

- 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, claviculectomy, diagnostic shoulder arthroscopy)



#### **Surgery Performed in this Setting is Excluded:**

 Emergency Surgery – admitted via the Emergency Department

# CPT Codes Requiring Prior Authorization (HKS /Joint)

HIP SURGERY PROCEDURES					
Procedure Name	Primary CPT Code	Allowable Billed Groupings	Additional Covered Procedures/Codes		
Authorization is provided at the <u>procedure</u> level. There are multiple CPT codes that can be associated with each procedure. These are assumed to be part of the primary request and, when completed in combination, do not require a separate authorization.					
Revision/Conversion Hip Arthroplasty	27134	27132, 27134, 27137, 27138			
Total Hip Arthroplasty/Resurfacing	27130	27130, S2118			
Femoroacetabular Impingement (FAI) Hip Surgery	29914	29914, 29915, 29916	Loose Body Removal: 29861  Chondroplasty: 29862  Synovectomy: 29863		
Hip Surgery – Other	29863	29860, 29861, 29862, 29863			

# CPT Codes Requiring Prior Authorization (Spine)

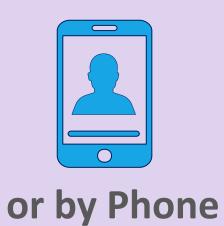
LUMBAR SPINE SURGERY PROCEDURES						
Procedure Name	Primary CPT Code	Allowable Billed Groupings	Additional Covered Procedures/Codes	Ancillary Procedures/Codes		
Authorization is provi each procedure. The combination, do not i	These codes do not require prior authorization. If the main procedure is approved, these codes are understood to be included and do not require precertification from the health plan.  *Please note: This is not an all-inclusive list of every possible ancillary code					
Lumbar Microdiscectomy	63030	62380, 63030, +63035				
Lumbar Decompression	63047	63005, 63012, 63017, 63042, +63044, 63047, +63048, 63056, +63057	Microdiscectomy: 62380, 63030, +63035			
Lumbar Fusion - Single Level	22612	22533, 22558, 22612, 22630, 22633, +63052, +63053	Microdiscectomy: 62380, 63030, +63035	Instrumentation: +22840, +22841, +22842, +22845, +22853  Bone Grafts: +20930, +20931,		
			<b>Decompression:</b> 63005, 63012, 63017, 63042, +63044, 63047, +63048, 63056, +63057	+20936, +20937, +20938  Bone Marrow Aspiration: 20939		

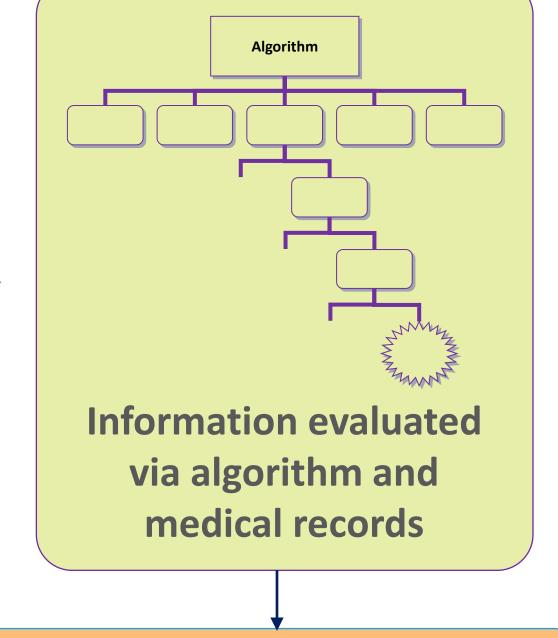
### Prior Authorization Process Overview

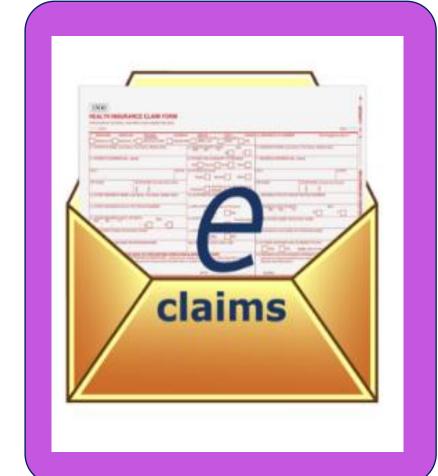


Ordering Physician is responsible for obtaining prior authorization.
MSK provider may be both ordering and rendering



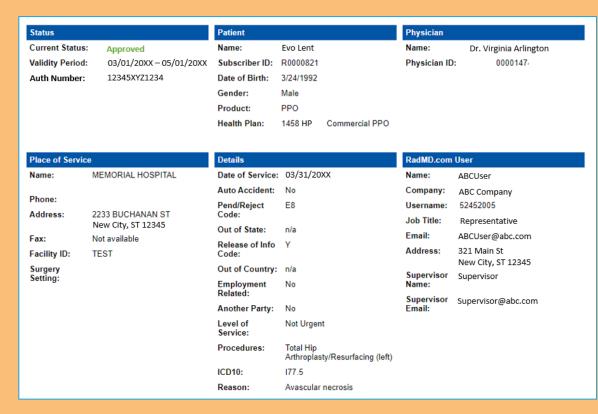






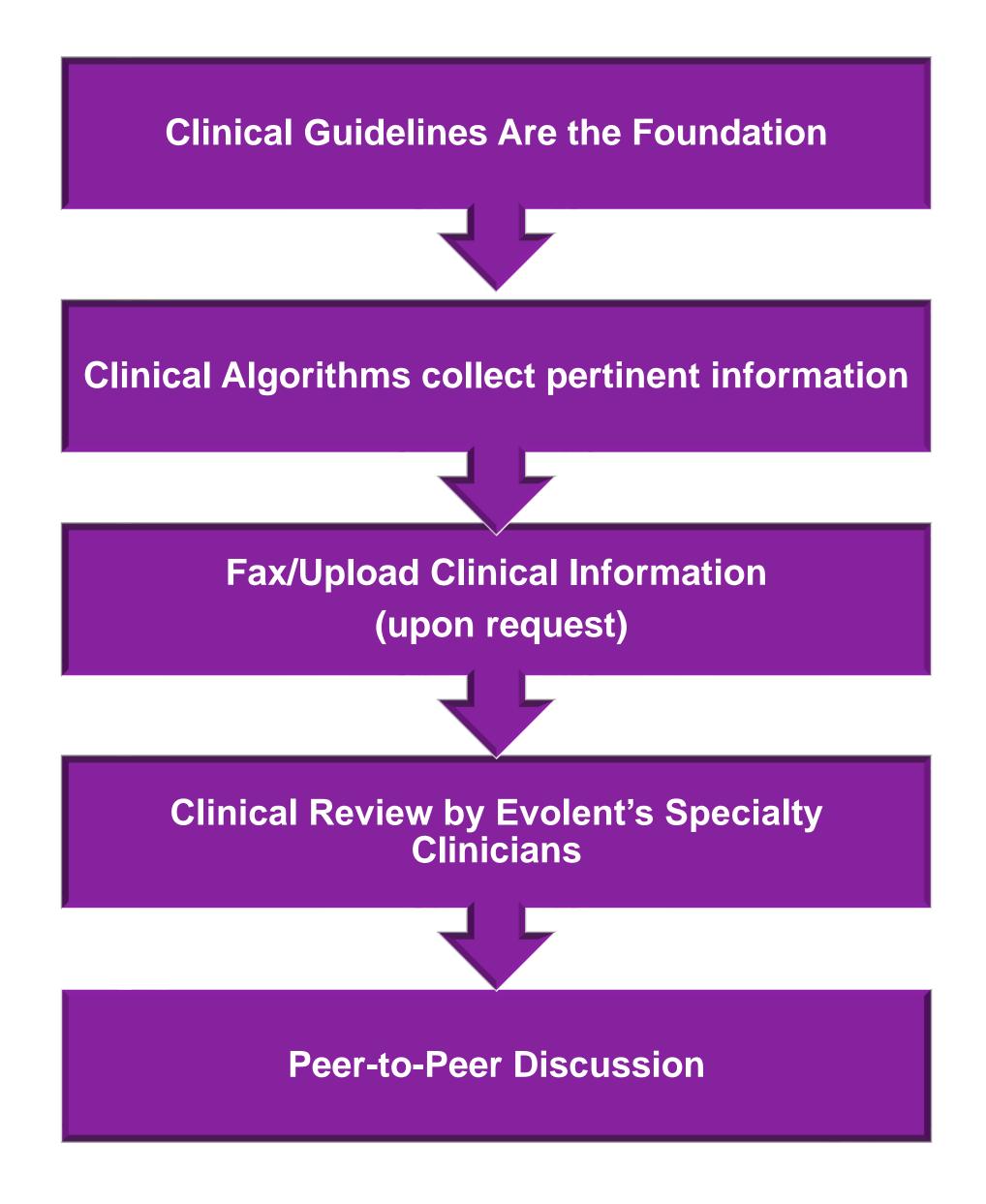


Rendering Provider verifies authorization was obtained and provides service



**Service Authorized** 

### Evolent's Clinical Foundation & Review



- Clinical guidelines were developed by practicing specialty physicians, through literature reviews and evidenced-based research. Guidelines are reviewed and approved by Evolent Medical Officers and clinical experts. Clinical Guidelines are available on RadMD.com
- Algorithms are a branching structure that changes depending upon the answer to each question.
- The member's clinical information/medical record will be required for validation of clinical criteria before an approval can be made.
- Evolent has a specialized clinical team focused on MSK.
- Peer-to-peer discussions are offered for any request that does not meet medical necessity guidelines.
- Our goal ensure that members are receiving appropriate care.

# Authorization for Surgery

# Most surgeries require only one authorization request. Evolent provides a list of surgery categories to choose from and the surgeon's office must select the most complex and invasive surgery being performed as the **primary** surgery.

- Example 1: A lumbar fusion authorization includes decompression, instrumentation, etc.
- Example 2: A knee ligament reconstruction includes meniscectomy, debridement, etc.
- Bilateral hip or knee surgeries require authorization for both the left **and** right side. ACDF and posterior cervical fusion require authorization for each procedure. These requests can be entered at the same time and will be reviewed concurrently.

# Special Information

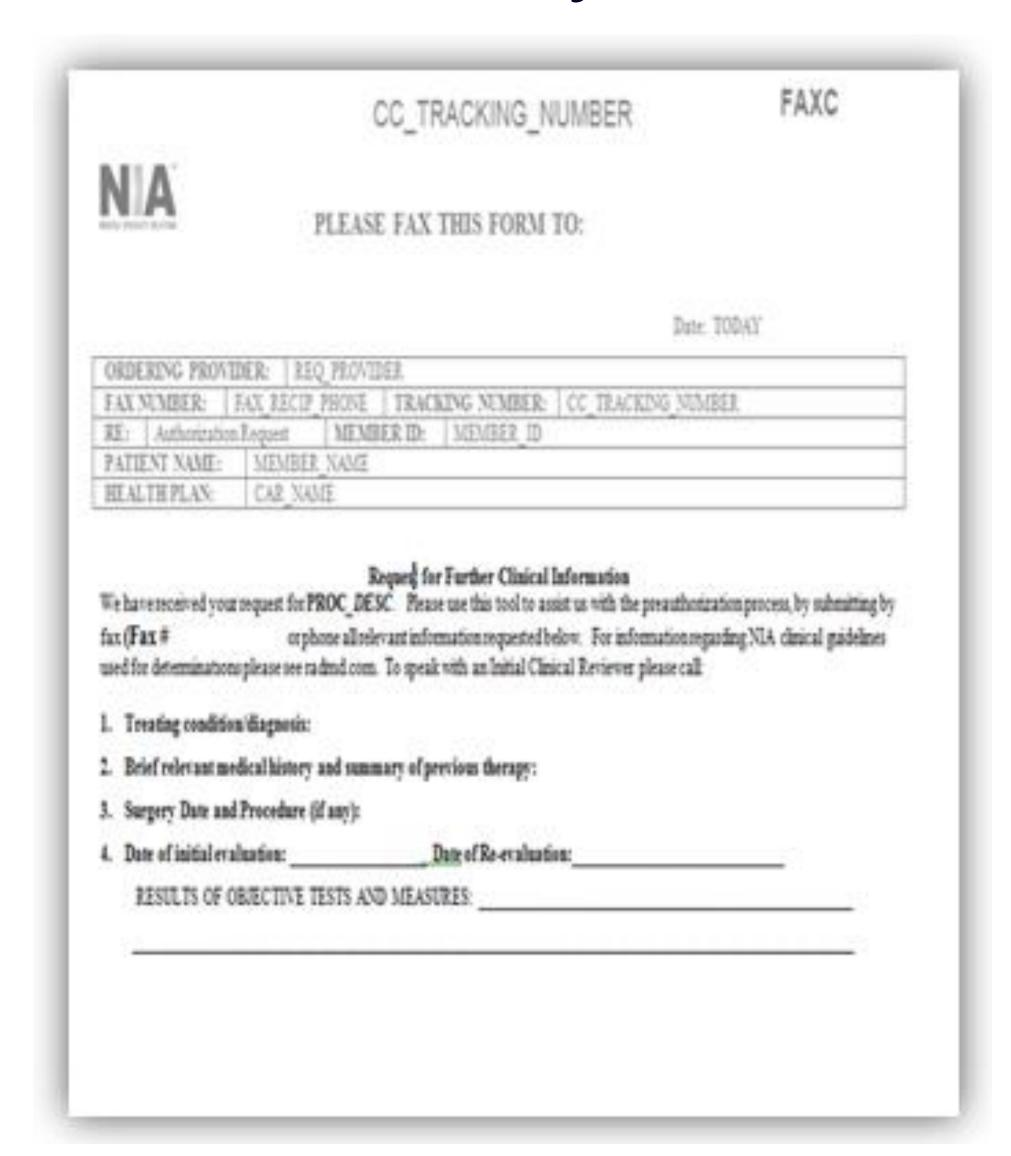
- Inpatient admissions may be subject to concurrent review by Alliance Health.
- Date of Service is required.
- The ordering physician must obtain prior authorization with Evolent prior to performing the surgery/procedure.
- Facility admissions do not require a separate prior authorization. However, the facility should ensure that an Evolent prior authorization has been obtained prior to scheduling the surgery/procedure.

# Surgery Clinical Checklist Reminders

### Surgery Documentation:

- Details regarding the member's symptoms and their onset/duration
- Physical exam findings
- Conservative treatment modalities with dates and duration (e.g., physical therapy, home exercise plan, injections, medications, activity modification)
- Diagnostic imaging results
- Ordering physician's surgical plan (including a discussion about the potential risks and benefits of the procedure) (BMI, smoking history, mental status for some surgeries)

# Evolent to Physician: Request for Clinical Information





A fax is sent to the provider detailing what clinical information that is needed, along with a fax coversheet.



We stress the need to provide the clinical information as quickly as possible so we can make a determination.



Determination timeframe begins after receipt of clinical information.



Failure to receive requested clinical information may result in non certification.

# Submitting Additional Clinical Information

- Records may be submitted:
  - Upload to <u>https://www.RadMD.com</u>
  - Fax using Evolent coversheet
- Location of Fax Coversheets:
  - Can be printed from https://www.RadMD.com
  - Call: 1-800-327-0793
- Use the case specific fax coversheet when faxing clinical information to Evolent



# Clinical Specialty Team: Focused on MSK

### **MSK Surgery Review**

Initial clinical review performed by specialty trained surgery nurses

Surgery concierge team will contact provider for additional clinical information

Orthopedic surgeons
or neurosurgeons
conduct clinical reviews
and peer-to-peer
discussions on surgery
requests

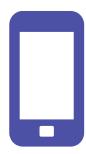
### MSK Clinical Review Process

### **Physicians' Office Contacts Evolent for Prior Authorization**









### **Evolent Initial Clinical Specialty Team Review**

- Additional clinical information submitted and reviewed Procedure Approved
- Additional clinical not complete or inconclusive Escalate to Physician Review



Designated & Specialized Clinical MSK Team interacts with Provider Community.

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### Request Evaluated Based on Information Entered

Additional clinical information required

#### **Evolent Specialty Physician Reviewers**

• Evolent Physician approves case without peer-to-peer



Peer-to-peer outbound attempt made if case is not approvable

- Evolent Physician approves case with peer-to-peer
- Ordering Physician withdraws case during peer-topeer
- Evolent Physician denies case based on medical criteria

Key Evolent Differentiators

Generally, the turnaround time for completion of these requests is within two business days upon receipt of sufficient clinical information

# Urgent/Expedited Authorization Process

 If an urgent clinical situation exists (outside of a hospital emergency department) during business hours, please call Evolent immediately.

- The Evolent website <a href="https://www.RadMD.com">https://www.RadMD.com</a> cannot be used for medically urgent or expedited prior authorization requests during business hours. Those requests must be processed by calling the Evolent call center: 1-800-327-0793
- Turnaround time is within 1 business day not to exceed 72 calendar hours.

### Notification of Determination

#### **Authorization Notification**

• Authorizations are valid for:

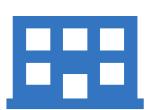
#### Surgery

- 60 days from date of request
- Inpatient 60 days from date of request
- Outpatient- SDC/Ambulatory 60 days from date of request

#### **Denial Notification**

- Notifications include an explanation of services denied and the clinical rationale.
- A peer-to-peer discussion can be initiated once the adverse determination has been made.
- Re-Review may be available with new or additional information.
- Re-review must occur within 10 business days from the date of denial and prior to submitting a formal appeal.
- In the event of a denial, providers are asked to follow the instructions provided in their denial letter.

# MSK Surgery Points – Lumbar/Cervical Spine Surgery



Inpatient and outpatient non-emergent surgeries



Spine Surgery is focused on lumbar and/or cervical spine surgeries.



For spinal surgeries, only one authorization request per surgery. For example, a Lumbar fusion authorization includes decompression, instrumentation, etc.



Reconstructive spinal deformity surgery does not require prior authorization. However, Evolent will monitor provider use of CPT codes 22800-22819.



ACDF and posterior cervical fusion require authorization for each procedure. These requests can be entered at the same time and will be reviewed concurrently.

# MSK Surgery Points – Hip, Knee and Shoulder Surgery



Bilateral hip or knee surgeries require authorization for both the left **and** right side. These requests can be entered at the same time and will be reviewed concurrently.



Surgeries addressing the following are not included in the Evolent MSK program: trauma, amputation, fracture, active infection, pediatric conditions, congenital malformation, dysplasia (hip), palsy/plegia, osteochondritis dissecans (knee), osteotomy (knee), tumor, cyst, cancer, arthrodesis, girdle resection (hip), denervation (hip), joint dislocation, hemiarthroplasty (hip), hardware & foreign body removal.

Refer to the Alliance Health Authorization Look-up Tool at <a href="https://www.alliancehealthplan.org/providers/procedure-code-lookup-tool/">https://www.alliancehealthplan.org/providers/procedure-code-lookup-tool/</a> to determine if MSK services require prior authorization

# MSK Surgery Points – All Surgeries



Specialized Orthopedic Surgeons or Neurosurgeons will review surgery requests. Inpatient admissions will continue to be subject to concurrent review by Alliance Health.



The ordering physician must obtain prior authorization with Evolent prior to performing the surgery/procedure.

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.



Authorizations are valid for 60 days from the date of request. Evolent must be notified of any changes to the date of service.

### Provider Tools



# RadMD Website RadMD.com

**Available** 



24/7 (except during maintenance, performed every third Thursday of the month from Midnight – 3:00 AM EST)



#### **Toll-Free Numbers**

Medicaid 1-800-327-0793



Available
Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 8:00 PM EST

- Request Authorization
- View Authorization Status
- View and manage Authorization Requests with other users
- Upload Additional Clinical Information
- View Requests for additional Information and Determination Letters
- View Clinical Guidelines
- View Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- View Other Educational Documents

Interactive Voice Response (IVR)
 System for authorization tracking

### **Evolent Website**

https://www.RadMD.com

#### RadMD Functionality varies by user:

- Ordering Provider's Office View and submit requests for authorization.
- Rendering Provider View approved, pended and in review authorizations for their facility.
- MSK providers are typically both the ordering and the rendering provider.

#### Online Tools Available on RadMD

- Evolent's Clinical Guidelines
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Quick Reference Guides
- MSK Checklist
- RadMD Quick Start Guide
- Claims/Utilization Matrices



# RadMD New User Application Process - Ordering

Users are required to have their own separate usernames and passwords due to HIPAA regulations.

#### STEPS:

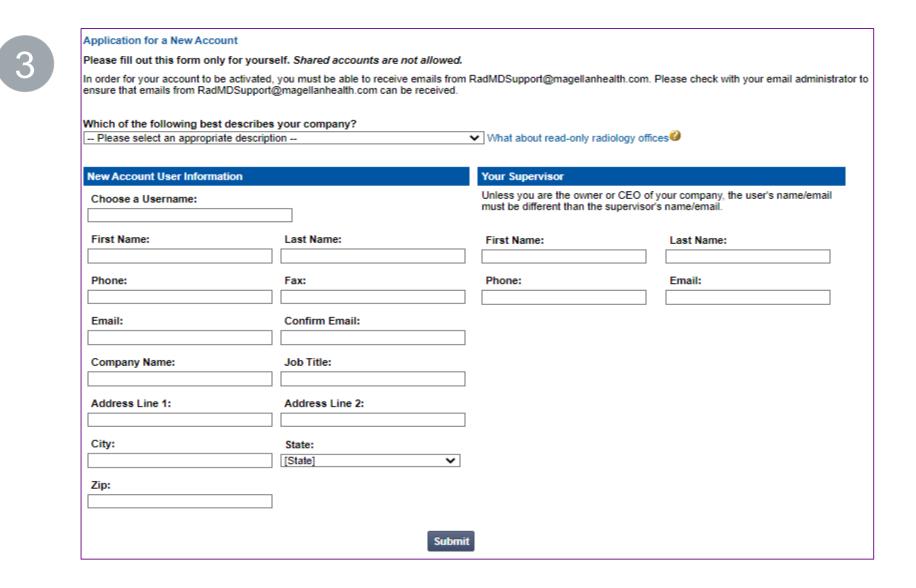
- Click the "New User" button on the right side of the home page.
- 2. Select "Physician's office that orders procedures"
- 3. Complete the application and click "Submit".
- 4. Open email from Evolent webmaster with new user password instructions

NOTE: On subsequent visits to RadMD, click the "Sign In" button to proceed.

Offices that are both ordering and rendering procedures should request ordering provider access. This will allow you to request authorization on RadMD and see the status of requests.



-- Please Select an Appropriate Description -Physician's office that orders procedures
Facility/office where procedures are performed
Health Insurance company
Cancer Treatment Facility or Hospital that performs radiation oncology procedures
Physicians office that prescribes radiation oncology procedures
Physical Medicine Practitioner (PT, OT, ST, Chiro, etc.)



# RadMD New User Application Process - Rendering

#### **IMPORTANT**

- Users are required to have their own separate username and password due to HIPAA regulations.
- Designate an "Administrator" for the facility who manages access for users.

#### STEPS:

- 1. Click the "New User" button on the right side of the home page.
- 2. Select "Facility/office where procedures are performed"
- 3. Complete the application and click "Submit".
- 4. Open email from Evolent webmaster with new user password instructions.

NOTE: On subsequent visits to RadMD, click the "Sign In" button to proceed.

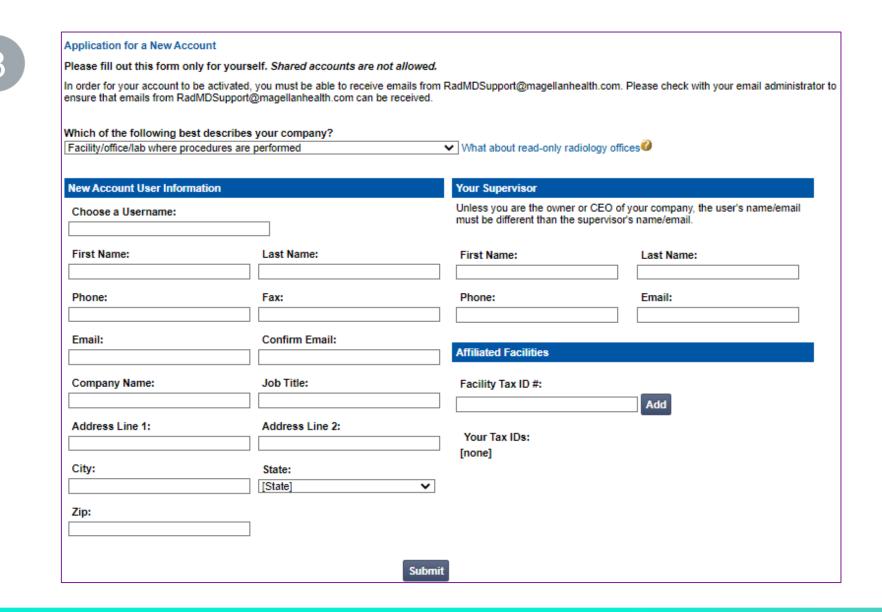
If multiple staff members entering authorizations need to view approved, pended, and in-review authorization requests, they will each need to complete and submit a new user application. The account administrator is responsible for granting rendering access for each employee.



-- Please Select an Appropriate Description -Physician's office that orders procedures

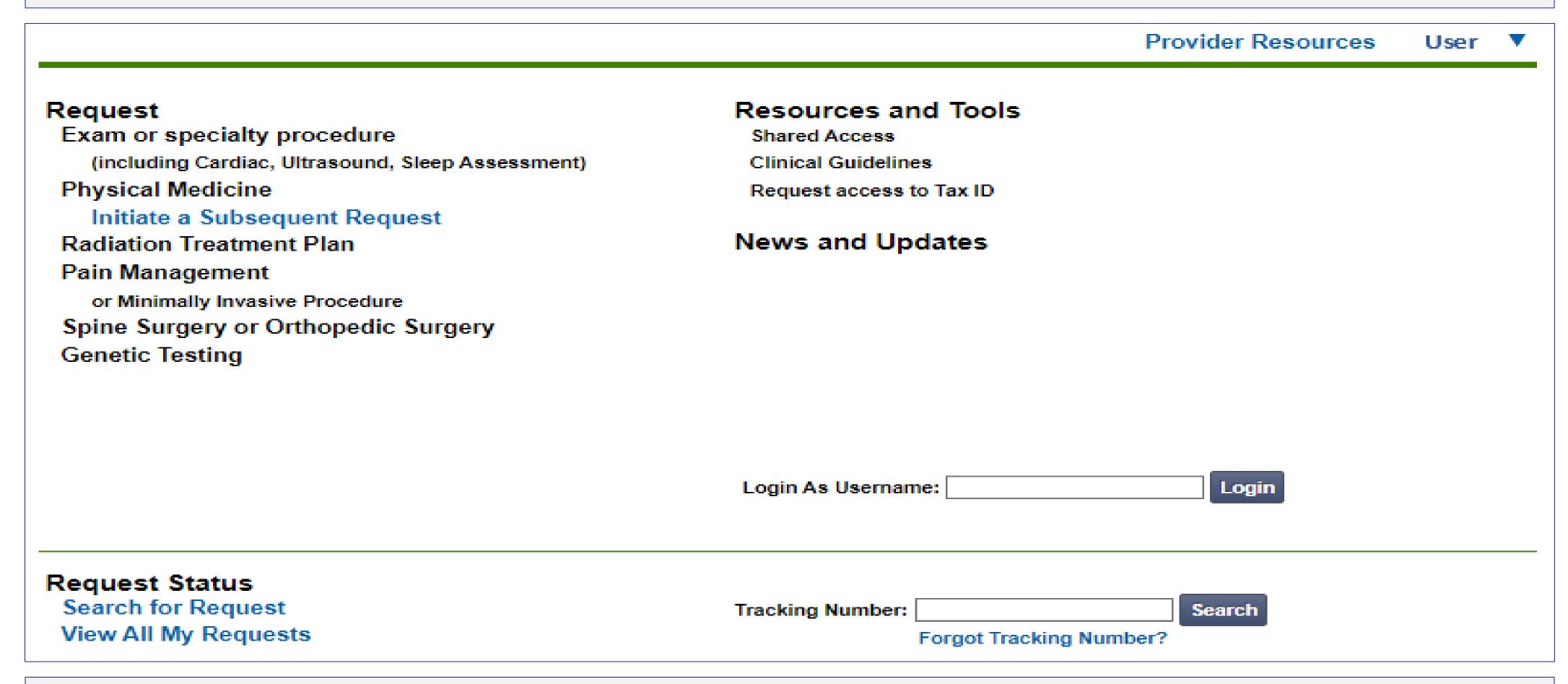
Facility/office where procedures are performed

Health Insurance company
Cancer Treatment Facility or Hospital that performs radiation oncology procedures
Physicians office that prescribes radiation oncology procedures
Physical Medicine Practitioner (PT, OT, ST, Chiro, etc.)



### Shared Access

Evolent offers a **Shared Access** feature on our <u>RadMD.com</u> website. Shared Access allows ordering providers to view authorization requests initiated by other RadMD users within their practice.

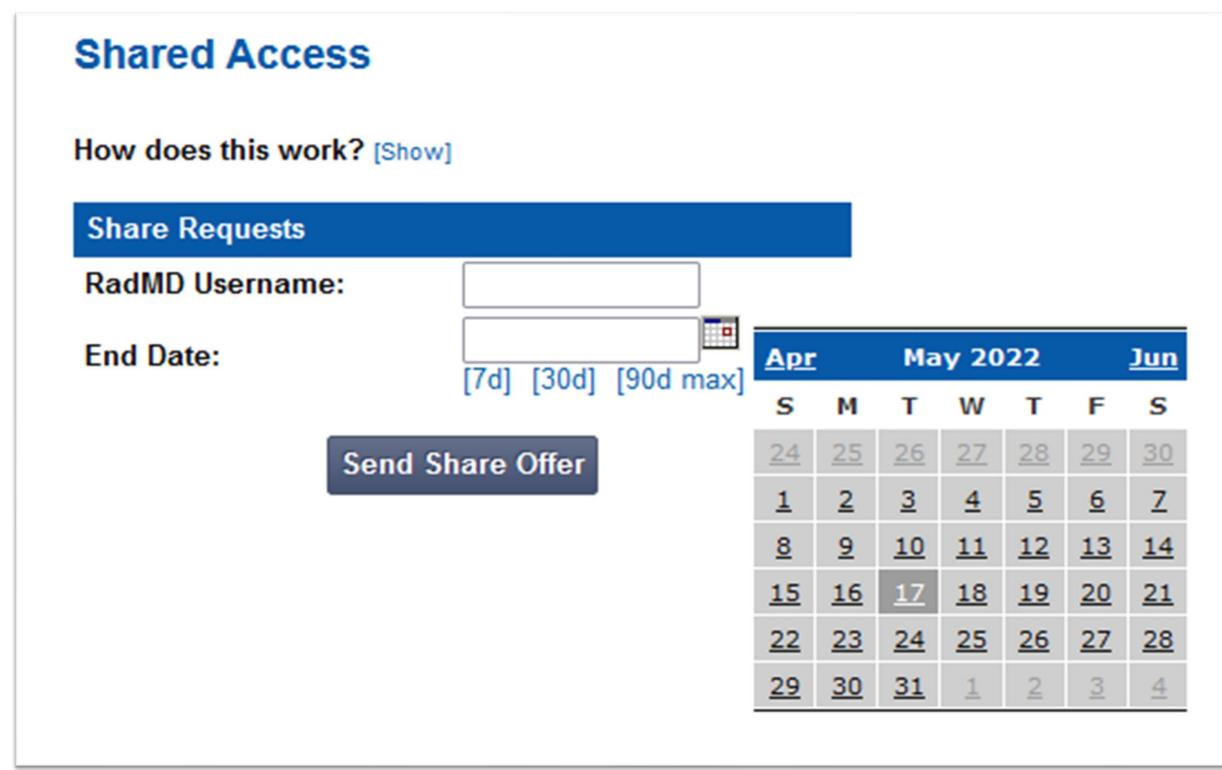


If practice staff is unavailable for a period of time, access can be shared with other users in the practice. They will be able to view and manage the authorization requests initiated on <a href="RadMD.com">RadMD.com</a>, allowing them to communicate with members and facilitate treatment.

#### Benefits of Shared Access

From the main menu select Shared





- Assist providers and staff in viewing authorization requests initiated by other RadMD users within a practice via the "Shared Access" feature
- All that is needed is the username.
   The user 's password is not needed.
   Use the calendar to identify the number of days or select quick picks,
   (Timeframe must be between 1-90 days) and you may extend the Shared Access if more time is required
- Search for shared and your authorization requests by member name, member ID, request ID, tracking number or request date

### When to Contact Evolent

Initiating or checking the status of an authorization request	<ul> <li>Website, <a href="https://www.RadMD.com">https://www.RadMD.com</a></li> <li>Interactive Voice Response (IVR) - Toll-free number: 1-800-327-0793</li> </ul>	
Initiating a Peer-to-Peer Consultation	<b>1</b> -800-327-0793	
Provider Service Line	<ul><li>RadMDSupport@evolent.com</li><li>Call 1-800-327-0641</li></ul>	
Provider Education requests or questions specific to Evolent	<ul> <li>Priscilla W. Singleton         Senior Provider Relations Manager         314-387-5023         psingleton@evolent.com</li> </ul>	





# Thanks!



# Confidentiality Statement

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