

Special Bulletin

For professional and facility providers

Oct. 24, 2024

Prior Authorization Changes Occurring on Feb. 1, 2025

Effective Feb. 1, 2025, more than 100 codes will be added to the prior authorization list, including codes related to the following procedures, treatments, and medical devices:

- Arthrodesis
- Cholecystectomy
- Correction, hallux valgus (bunionectomy)
- Extracapsular cataract removal
- Gastrectomy
- Laminectomy
- Laparoscopy
- Segmental pneumatic appliance

Codes to be Added to Prior Authorization List

The codes below will **not** appear on the Prior Authorization list on the Provider Resource Center until the effective date of **Feb. 1, 2025**.

Procedure Code	Description
19499	Unlisted procedure, breast
20983	Ablation therapy for reduction or eradication of 1 or more bone tumors (e.g., metastasis) including adjacent soft tissue when involved by tumor extension, percutaneous, including imaging guidance when performed; cryoablation
22224	Osteotomy of spine, including discectomy, anterior approach, single vertebral segment; lumbar
22548	Arthrodesis, anterior transoral or extraoral technique, clivus-C1-C2 (atlas-axis), with or without excision of odontoid process
22590	Arthrodesis, posterior technique, craniocervical (occiput-C2)
22595	Arthrodesis, posterior technique, atlas-axis (C1-C2)
22802	Arthrodesis, posterior, for spinal deformity, with or without cast; 7 to 12 vertebral segments
22804	Arthrodesis, posterior, for spinal deformity, with or without cast; 13 or more vertebral segments
22808	Arthrodesis, anterior, for spinal deformity, with or without cast; 2 to 3 vertebral segments
22810	Arthrodesis, anterior, for spinal deformity, with or without cast; 4 to 7 vertebral segments

22812	Arthrodesis, anterior, for spinal deformity, with or without cast; 8 or more vertebral segments
27279	Arthrodesis, sacroiliac joint, percutaneous or minimally invasive (indirect visualization), with image guidance, includes obtaining bone graft when performed, and placement of transfixation device
27280	Arthrodesis, sacroiliac joint, open, includes obtaining bone graft, including instrumentation, when performed
28110	Ostectomy, partial excision, fifth metatarsal head (bunionette) (separate procedure)
28291	Hallux rigidus correction with cheilectomy, debridement and capsular release of the first metatarsophalangeal joint; with implant
28295	Correction, hallux valgus with bunionectomy, with sesamoidectomy when performed; with proximal metatarsal osteotomy, any method
28296	Correction, hallux valgus (bunionectomy), with sesamoidectomy, when performed; with distal metatarsal osteotomy, any method
28297	Correction, hallux valgus (bunionectomy), with sesamoidectomy, when performed; with first metatarsal and medial cuneiform joint arthrodesis, any method
28299	Correction, hallux valgus (bunionectomy), with sesamoidectomy, when performed; with double osteotomy, any method
28306	Osteotomy, with or without lengthening, shortening or angular correction, metatarsal; first metatarsal
28322	Repair, nonunion or malunion; metatarsal, with or without bone graft (includes obtaining graft)
28755	Arthrodesis, great toe; interphalangeal joint
29892	Arthroscopically aided repair of large osteochondritis dissecans lesion, talar dome fracture, or tibial plafond fracture, with or without internal fixation (includes arthroscopy)
29899	Arthroscopy, ankle (tibiotalar and fibulotalar joints), surgical; with ankle arthrodesis
36299	Unlisted procedure, vascular injection
38999	Unlisted procedure, hemic or lymphatic system
41530	Submucosal ablation of the tongue base, radiofrequency, 1 or more sites, per session
42299	Unlisted procedure, palate, uvula
43632	Gastrectomy, partial, distal; with gastrojejunostomy
43633	Gastrectomy, partial, distal; with Roux-en-Y reconstruction
44238	Unlisted laparoscopy procedure, intestine (except rectum)
47370	Laparoscopy, surgical, ablation of 1 or more liver tumor(s); radiofrequency
47379	Unlisted Laparoscopic Procedure, Liver
47382	Ablation, 1 or more liver tumor(s), percutaneous, radiofrequency
47564	Laparoscopy, surgical; cholecystectomy with exploration of common duct
47570	Laparoscopy, surgical; cholecystoenterostomy
47600	Cholecystectomy;
47605	Cholecystectomy; with cholangiography
47610	Cholecystectomy with exploration of common duct;
47612	Cholecystectomy with exploration of common duct; with choledochoenterostomy
47620	Cholecystectomy with exploration of common duct; with transduodenal sphincterotomy or sphincteroplasty, with or without cholangiography
49329	Unlisted laparoscopy procedure, abdomen, peritoneum and omentum

49659	Unlisted laparoscopy procedure, hernioplasty, herniorrhapy, herniotomy
50542	Laparoscopy, surgical; ablation of renal mass lesion(s), including intraoperative ultrasound guidance and monitoring, when performed
50593	Ablation, renal tumor(s), unilateral, percutaneous, cryotherapy
51999	Unlisted laparoscopy procedure, bladder
55559	Unlisted laparoscopy procedure, spermatic cord
55873	Cryosurgical ablation of the prostate (includes ultrasonic guidance and monitoring)
55899	Unlisted procedure, male genital system
61863	Twist drill, burr hole, craniotomy, or craniectomy with stereotactic implantation of neurostimulator electrode array in subcortical site (e.g., thalamus, globus pallidus, subthalamic nucleus, periventricular, periaqueductal gray), without use of intraoperative microelectrode recording; first array
61867	Twist drill, burr hole, craniotomy, or craniectomy with stereotactic implantation of neurostimulator electrode array in subcortical site (e.g., thalamus, globus pallidus, subthalamic nucleus, periventricular, periaqueductal gray), with use of intraoperative microelectrode recording; first array
61885	Insertion or replacement of cranial neurostimulator pulse generator or receiver, direct or inductive coupling; with connection to a single electrode array
61886	Insertion or replacement of cranial neurostimulator pulse generator or receiver, direct or inductive coupling; with connection to 2 or more electrode arrays
63016	Laminectomy with exploration and/or decompression of spinal cord and/or cauda equina, without facetectomy, foraminotomy or discectomy (e.g., spinal stenosis), more than 2 vertebral segments; thoracic
63046	Laminectomy, facetectomy and foraminotomy (unilateral or bilateral with decompression of spinal cord, cauda equina and/or nerve root[s], [eg, spinal or lateral recess stenosis]), single vertebral segment; thoracic
63055	Transpedicular approach with decompression of spinal cord, equina and/or nerve root(s) (e.g., herniated intervertebral disc), single segment; thoracic
63101	Vertebral corpectomy (vertebral body resection), partial or complete, lateral extracavitary approach with decompression of spinal cord and/or nerve root(s) (e.g., for tumor or retropulsed bone fragments); thoracic, single segment
63102	Vertebral corpectomy (vertebral body resection), partial or complete, lateral extracavitary approach with decompression of spinal cord and/or nerve root(s) (e.g., for tumor or retropulsed bone fragments); lumbar, single segment
63190	Laminectomy with rhizotomy; more than 2 segments
63200	Laminectomy, with release of tethered spinal cord, lumbar
63265	Laminectomy for excision or evacuation of intraspinal lesion other than neoplasm, extradural; cervical
63266	Laminectomy for excision or evacuation of intraspinal lesion other than neoplasm, extradural; thoracic
63267	Laminectomy for excision or evacuation of intraspinal lesion other than neoplasm, extradural; lumbar
63272	Laminectomy for excision of intraspinal lesion other than neoplasm, intradural; lumbar
63275	Laminectomy for biopsy/excision of intraspinal neoplasm; extradural, cervical
63277	Laminectomy for biopsy/excision of intraspinal neoplasm; extradural, lumbar
63280	Laminectomy for biopsy/excision of intraspinal neoplasm; intradural, extramedullary, cervical

63282	Laminectomy for biopsy/excision of intraspinal neoplasm; intradural, extramedullary, lumbar
63285	Laminectomy for biopsy/excision of intraspinal neoplasm; intradural, intramedullary, cervical
63290	Laminectomy for biopsy/excision of intraspinal neoplasm; combined extradural-intradural lesion, any level
63300	Vertebral corpectomy (vertebral body resection), partial or complete, for excision of intraspinal lesion, single segment; extradural, cervical
63301	Vertebral corpectomy (vertebral body resection), partial or complete, for excision of intraspinal lesion, single segment; extradural, thoracic by transthoracic approach
63303	Vertebral corpectomy (vertebral body resection), partial or complete, for excision of intraspinal lesion, single segment; extradural, lumbar or sacral by transperitoneal or retroperitoneal approach
63663	Revision including replacement, when performed, of spinal neurostimulator electrode percutaneous array(s), including fluoroscopy, when performed
63664	Revision including replacement, when performed, of spinal neurostimulator electrode plate/paddle(s) placed via laminotomy or laminectomy, including fluoroscopy, when performed
64581	Open implantation of neurostimulator electrode array; sacral nerve (transforaminal placement)
66989	Extracapsular cataract removal with insertion of intraocular lens prosthesis (1-stage procedure), manual or mechanical technique (eg, irrigation and aspiration or phacoemulsification), complex, requiring devices or techniques not generally used in routine cataract surgery (e.g., iris expansion device, suture support for intraocular lens, or primary posterior capsulorrhexis) or performed on patients in the amblyogenic developmental stage; with insertion of intraocular (eg, trabecular meshwork, supraciliary, suprachoroidal) anterior segment aqueous drainage device, without extraocular reservoir, internal approach, one or more
66991	Extracapsular cataract removal with insertion of intraocular lens prosthesis (1 stage procedure), manual or mechanical technique (e.g., irrigation and aspiration or phacoemulsification); with insertion of intraocular (e.g., trabecular meshwork, supraciliary, suprachoroidal) anterior segment aqueous drainage device, without extraocular reservoir, internal approach, one or more
C1820	Generator, neurostimulator (implantable), with rechargeable battery and charging system
C1821	Interspinous process distraction device (implantable)
E0651	Pneumatic compressor, segmental home model without calibrated gradient pressure
E0652	Pneumatic compressor, segmental home model with calibrated gradient pressure
E0655	Nonsegmental pneumatic appliance for use with pneumatic compressor, half arm
E0656	Segmental pneumatic appliance for use with pneumatic compressor, trunk
E0657	Segmental pneumatic appliance for use with pneumatic compressor, chest
E0660	Nonsegmental pneumatic appliance for use with pneumatic compressor, full leg
E0665	Nonsegmental pneumatic appliance for use with pneumatic compressor, full arm
E0666	Nonsegmental pneumatic appliance for use with pneumatic compressor, half leg
E0667	Segmental pneumatic appliance for use with pneumatic compressor, full leg
E0668	Segmental pneumatic appliance for use with pneumatic compressor, full arm
E0669	Segmental pneumatic appliance for use with pneumatic compressor, half leg
E0670	Segmental pneumatic appliance for use with pneumatic compressor, integrated, two full legs and trunk
E0671	Segmental gradient pressure pneumatic appliance, full leg

E0672	Segmental gradient pressure pneumatic appliance, full arm
E0673	Segmental gradient pressure pneumatic appliance, half leg
E0675	Pneumatic compression device, high pressure, rapid inflation/deflation cycle, for arterial insufficiency (unilateral or bilateral system)
E0676	Intermittent limb compression device (includes all accessories), not otherwise specified
E0983	Manual wheelchair accessory, power add-on to convert manual wheelchair to motorized wheelchair, joystick control
E2328	Power wheelchair accessory, head control or extremity control interface, electronic, proportional, including all related electronics and fixed mounting hardware
E2398	Wheelchair accessory, dynamic positioning hardware for back
L0999	Addition to spinal orthosis, not otherwise specified
L5999	Lower extremity prosthesis, not otherwise specified
L7499	Upper extremity prosthesis, not otherwise specified
V2629	Prosthetic eye, other type

Important Information for Acquiring Prior Authorization

The [List of Procedures/DME Requiring Authorization](#) for Highmark is subject to change. During the year, Highmark makes several adjustments to its full list of outpatient procedures, services, durable medical equipment, and drugs requiring authorization. For benefits to be paid, the member must be eligible on the date of service and the service must be a covered benefit. Providers should use [Availity](#)[®] or the applicable HIPAA electronic transactions to check member benefits and eligibility, to verify if an authorization is required, and to obtain authorization for services before they are rendered.

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