



Ellen M. Buettner | Chief Executive Officer

J. Kevin Stitt | Governor

OHCA-2024-20

October 28, 2024

RE: PA Criteria for MRI of the Lumbar Spine

Dear Provider,

The SoonerSelect contracted entities (CEs) are required to administer medically necessary, covered services in a manner that is no more restrictive than what is required by OHCA in the SoonerCare fee-for-service (FFS) program (see O.A.C. 317:55-3-10). CEs may request to implement alternative processes for administration of medically necessary, covered services under the SoonerSelect program. Requested alternatives are subject to OHCA review and approval.

Oklahoma Complete Health (OCH) and Oklahoma Complete Health Children's Specialty Program recently requested to implement changes related to prior authorization (PA) criteria for the amount of conservative therapy required prior to approving an MRI of the lumbar spine. The changes include changing from the InterQual requirement of four weeks of conservative therapy in the prior year to the Evolent Health requirement of 6 consecutive weeks of conservative therapy.

OHCA subject matter experts (SMEs) reviewed OCH's proposed revisions and assessed appropriateness of the proposed practices. Complete details of the proposed changes including OHCA decisions can be found as an attachment to this letter. OHCA decisions will be included in the OHCA's Medical Advisory Committee (MAC) agenda packet for the November 7, 2024, meeting.

The approved changes are effective for Oklahoma Complete Health and Oklahoma Complete Health Children's Specialty Program members for dates of service on or after November 1, 2024.

If you have any questions or comments about the implementation of this request to change service provisions, please contact Oklahoma Complete Health at 833-752-1664 or Oklahoma Complete Health Children's Specialty Program at 833-752-1665 or online at www.OklahomaCompleteHealth.com.



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OKLAHOMA
Health Care Authority

Serving Oklahomans
through SoonerCare

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Thank you for your continued service to Oklahoma's SoonerCare and SoonerSelect members.

Sincerely,

Traylor Rains
State Medicaid Director



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