Medical Prior Authorization List
For prescription drug requirements, see plan formularies.

Effective October 1, 2017

General Information

- These requirements are administered by Health First Health Plans (“Health Plans”).
- **Benefits are determined by the plan. Items listed may have limited coverage or not be covered at all.**
- All items and services on this list require prior authorization regardless of the service location, plan type or provider participation status.
- Referrals are not required for network specialist care. Refer to the current Provider Directory or visit our website for a list of network providers.
- Authorization is not a guarantee of payment. Coverage is subject to member eligibility, as well as applicable benefit and provider contract provisions on the date of service. Contract limitations may apply and supersede any authorization provided.
- This document is updated periodically, but may change at any time. Please refer to the current version by visiting our website at myHFHP.org.
- See the Authorization List Code Reference for potentially-applicable procedure codes. The list is available on our website. Codes are for reference only, are not all-inclusive and are subject to change.
- If waiting for a decision in the standard timeframe could seriously harm the member’s health or ability to regain maximum function, an expedited process is available.
- **Yellow highlights** indicate changes from last version.

How to Request Authorization

- With the following exceptions, authorization requests should be submitted directly to the Health Plan
  - **High Tech Imaging, Echocardiograms and Sleep Disorder Testing and Treatment are authorized by AIM Specialty Health (AIM).** Visit aimspecialtyhealth.com to request authorization and to access guidelines.
  - **Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse Services are authorized by Magellan Behavioral Health, Inc. (Magellan).** Authorization may be requested by phone toll-free at 1.800.424.HFHP (4347) or online at magellanprovider.com.
  - **Spinal Surgeries/Pain Injections/Bone Growth Stimulation are authorized by Palladian Health.** Visit palladianhealth.com to request authorization. Palladian may also be reached at 1.888.658.8181.
- To request authorization from the Health Plan, submit the appropriate medical or pharmacy (drug) “Authorization Request” form or request authorization online. Include applicable codes, patient identification and clinical information to support the request.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS FOR AUTHORIZATIONS SUBMITTED TO THE HEALTH PLAN

- Submit online requests via your secure account at: myHFHP.org/login
- Fax **medical** authorization requests to: 1.855.328.0059
- Fax **drug** authorization requests to: 1.855.328.0061
- For questions, call Customer Service toll-free at 1.844.522.5282 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Medical Prior Authorization List
Effective October 1, 2017

Hospital/Skilled Nursing Facility

Hospital Admissions

- Contracted hospitals:
  - All procedures on this List require prior authorization.
  - Other inpatient admissions require notification only. Patient status must be appropriate.
  - Outpatient admissions do not require authorization or notification unless the procedure itself requires review.

- Non-Contracted Hospitals:
  - Elective inpatient and outpatient admissions require authorization.
  - Emergency admissions require notification only.
  - Admissions for Labor and Delivery do not require prior authorization. Authorization is only needed if baby admitted for medical care.

- Behavioral Health/Substance Abuse Services: Inpatient and outpatient hospital services (including Partial Hospitalization and Intensive Outpatient Programs) require authorization by Magellan. See “How to Request Authorization” for information.

Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Services

- Inpatient SNF Services
- Outpatient Services During a Non-Covered SNF Stay
  - Covered services such as physician, diagnostic and rehab services provided during a custodial stay

Diagnostic Testing

Laboratory Services

- Genetic Testing: except standard Down Syndrome and Cystic Fibrosis screening
- Cologuard™: for colorectal cancer screening

Radiology Services

- Outpatient High Tech Imaging (MRI/MRA, CT, PET): Authorized by AIM. See “How to Request Authorization” for information
- Computed tomographic (CT) colonography (virtual colonoscopy)
- DaTscan SPECT Imaging to diagnose Parkinson’s
- Echocardiograms: Authorized by AIM Specialty Health. Fetal echos do not require prior authorization.
- Cardiac Loop Recorder Implantation
- Orthopantograms (Panoramic X-Rays)

Other Diagnostic Services

- Mobile Cardiac Outpatient Telemetry (MCOT)
- Infertility Diagnostic Services
- M2A Capsule Endoscopies

Investigational Items and Services

- Any item or service potentially considered investigational or experimental must be authorized in advance, including Category B Investigational Devices covered by Medicare. Investigational services may be described by temporary Category III CPT Codes, but may be assigned a CPT or other HCPCS code. Contact us with questions.
## Medical Equipment/Prosthetics/Orthotics

- Cochlear Implants/ Auditory Brainstem Implants/ Bone Anchored Hearing Aids
- **Compression Garments** – Gradient compression items reported with A6531, A6532, A6545
- Continuous Glucose Monitoring – Long-Term: Authorization not required for 72-hour monitoring
- Continuous Passive Motion Devices
- Customized DME (reported with HCPCS code K0900)
- Diabetic Test Supplies – Non-Preferred (any supplies other than Abbott’s Freestyle Lite, Freedom Lite or Precision Xtra)
- Elastic Garments, Belts, Sleeves or Coverings: Authorization not required for lymphedema sleeves
- Enteral/Parenteral/Oral Nutrition
- External (Automatic) Defibrillator (i.e. Life Vest): Authorization required after the first 90 days
- Home PT/INR Monitor
- Hospital Beds (All)
- Lymphedema Pumps (Pneumatic Compression Devices): Auth only required for E0652 (segmental home model with calibrated gradient pressure) every 90 days.
- Neurostimulators
- Orthotics: See Code Reference for details. Some items may be provided in certain locations or by certain specialties without authorization. Noncovered orthotics (e.g. foot orthotics) do not require authorization
- Oscillatory Devices for Airway Clearance, i.e. The Vest, Intrapulmonary Percussive Ventilation (IPV)
- External Prosthetic Devices: Not including post-cancer breast prostheses
- Positive Airway Pressure Devices (e.g. CPAP, BIPAP, APAP): Authorized by AIM every 90 days during first year of use. See “How to Request Authorization” for information. Authorization not required for supplies
- Quantities in Excess of Medicare Guidelines
- Seat/Patient Lift Mechanisms
- Scooters
- Snore Guards (Oral Appliances)
- Noninvasive ventilator (e.g. Trilogy Vent)
- Wheelchairs and Accessories

## Outpatient Therapies

### Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy

- **Children Under 9 Years of Age:**
  - Prior authorization required for all therapy services except the initial evaluation
- **Individuals 9 Years of Age or Older:**
  - Prior authorization is required for more than 20 physical, occupational or speech therapy visits per calendar year. Each discipline considered separately

### Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehabilitation

- Prior authorization is required for more than 36 cardiac or pulmonary rehabilitation visits per lifetime.

## Spinal/Musculoskeletal Procedures (Authorized by Palladian Health)

The following spinal procedures are authorized by Palladian Health. See “How to Request Authorization” for information about the process and the Code Reference document for code-level details.

- All spinal surgeries, including neurostimulator implantation/revision
- Pain injection procedures
- Bone growth stimulation
Other Surgical Services

- Bariatric Surgery, and any surgical procedure (i.e. hernia repair) performed with an obesity surgery
  - Note: Lap band adjustments do not require authorization as of 2/1/17, but benefit limits may apply
- Bronchial Thermoplasty
- Intacs for Keratoconus
- Implantation Services associated with devices that require prior authorization
- Penile Implants
- Reconstructive Procedures
  - All reconstructive procedures require prior authorization with the following exception:
    - Breast reconstruction for a cancer diagnosis does not require authorization except for the DIEP flap procedure, which must be reviewed in advance.
- Reduction Mammaplasty
- Sleep Apnea/Snoring Surgery [removed]
- Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR)

Select Items and Services

- Ambulance Services: Non-emergency transportation
- Autism Services
- Autologous Chondrocyte Implant
- Chronic Care Management (Medicare only) – Authorization required every 6 months
- Dental/Maxillofacial Services
- EECP (Enhanced External Counterpulsation)
- Home Births (Planned)
- Incontinence Procedures including sacral nerve stimulation, tibial nerve stimulation, Renessa®
- Organ Transplant Services (including evaluations)
- Proton Beam Therapy
- Radiopharmaceutical, therapeutic, not otherwise classified
- Skin/Wound Care:
  - Skin (dermal) substitutes, i.e. AlloSkin
  - Negative pressure wound therapy (Wound Vac) after the first 90 days.
- PUVA, laser treatment
- Electrical stimulation and electromagnetic therapy for non-healing wounds
- Urolift
- Varicose Vein Treatment

Behavioral Health - Authorized by Magellan. See “How to Request Authorization”.

- Electroconvulsive Therapy
- Substance Abuse Services: Inpatient, Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP) and Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) services

Out-of-Network Services

HMO Members

- With the exception of emergency care, urgently-needed care outside the service area or renal dialysis for Medicare members, all OON services require prior authorization

POS/PPO Members (Plans with out-of-network benefits)

- All items and services on this list require authorization regardless of the plan type
### Medical Drugs (drugs covered as medical benefits)

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### Orphan Drugs

Drugs with an “orphan” designation require prior authorization.

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