

Bulletin Number: MMP 22-44

Distribution: All Providers

Issued: December 1, 2022

Subject: Organ and Tissue Transplant Services

Effective: January 1, 2023

Programs Affected: Medicaid, Healthy Michigan Plan, MIChild, Maternity Outpatient Medical Services (MOMS)

The purpose of this bulletin is to update Medicaid policy for the coverage of medically-necessary organ and tissue transplant services. Organ and tissue transplant services are covered when the transplant is likely to prolong life and restore a range of physical and social function to activities of daily living. All other medical and surgical therapies expected to affect short- and long-term survival must have been tried or considered.

Coverage Criteria

For purposes of this coverage, the term 'organ' is defined as kidney, liver, heart, lung, pancreas, intestine (including the esophagus, stomach, small and/or large intestine, or any portion of the gastrointestinal tract), any vascularized composite allograft, or other organ defined in the National Organ Transplant Act of 1984, as amended, and hematopoietic stem/poietic stem/progenitor cells, cornea, bone and skin. The following criteria must be satisfied for the coverage of organ transplant services:

- Transplant services meet the requirements of Section 1138(B) of the Social Security Act, hospital protocols for organ procurement, Food and Drug Administration regulations, and standards for organ procurement agencies and transplant services as defined under State law where applicable.
- In making the selection of beneficiaries undergoing the transplant procedure, similarly-situated individuals are treated alike.
- Transplant services must be reasonable in their amount, duration, and scope to achieve their purpose.

Organ and tissue transplant services, including inpatient and outpatient, pre- and post-operative medical, surgical, hospital, physician, behavioral health, and related transportation services, are covered for eligible beneficiaries when medically necessary.

Covered services include:

- Pre-operative care, including required dental services to facilitate appropriate perioral health and hygiene
- Transplant care, including facility and professional fees
- Organ procurement fees, including donor fees
- Post-transplant care, including immunosuppressant drugs
- Psychological assessment
- Living donor expenses provided throughout the procurement process

General Requirements for Transplant Programs

Transplant services for organs defined in the National Organ Transplant Act of 1984, as amended, must be provided in a facility:

- That is a member of the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) where applicable to the transplanted organ.
- For heart, lung, liver, and bone marrow transplants, has a current and approved Michigan Certificate of Need.

Organ Specific Criteria

The following organ-specific criteria lists program and prior authorization requirements. Other organ transplants may be covered with prior authorization on an individual basis when the services performed are evidence-based and provided within generally accepted standards of medical practice. Combination of multiple organ transplantations will be considered on an individual basis and requires prior authorization.

NOTE: Medicaid Health Plans and Integrated Care Organizations may develop prior authorization requirements, utilization management, and review criteria that differ from Medicaid requirements. Beneficiaries who are enrolled in a Medicaid Health Plan or Integrated Care Organization must follow the plan’s prior authorization (PA) procedures to obtain approval for organ transplants.

Organ	Medical Necessity Criteria	Approval Duration	Required Documentation
Heart (May be done in combination with lung transplant)	End-stage heart disease not remediable by more conservative measures and amenable to surgical intervention, and diagnoses for which transplant provides best therapeutic potential.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial authorization: 1 year • Continuation of Authorization: as needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed, signed, and dated Practitioner Special Services Prior Approval – Request/Authorization (MSA-6544-B) form. If submitting electronically via direct data entry in the Community Health Automated Medicaid Processing System (CHAMPS), this PA request form is not required. • Medical documentation with ejection fraction and

Organ	Medical Necessity Criteria	Approval Duration	Required Documentation
			<p>recommendation for transplant completed by a cardiologist, transplant surgeon/team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Psychosocial assessment • Approval letter from transplant team/committee
<p>Lung (May be done in combination with heart transplant)</p>	<p>Pulmonary disease not remediable by more conservative measures and amenable to surgical intervention, for which transplant provides best therapeutic potential.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial authorization: 1 year • Continuation of Authorization: as needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed, signed, and dated MSA-6544-B form. If submitting electronically via direct data entry in CHAMPS, this PA request form is not required. • Medical documentation, including recommendation for transplant completed by a pulmonologist, transplant surgeon/team • Psychosocial assessment • Approval letter from transplant team/committee
<p>Kidney</p>	<p>End-stage renal disease not remediable by more conservative measures and amenable to surgical intervention, and diagnoses for which transplant provides best therapeutic potential.</p>	<p>Does not require prior authorization</p>	<p>Documentation to be maintained in the beneficiary's medical record:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment and recommendations of suitability for transplantation completed by a nephrologist, transplant surgeon/team • Psychosocial assessment

Organ	Medical Necessity Criteria	Approval Duration	Required Documentation
Liver	<p>Liver disease not remediable by more conservative measures and amenable to surgical intervention, for which transplant provides best therapeutic potential.</p> <p>Split-liver living donor transplant will be considered in appropriate circumstances.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial authorization: 1 year • Continuation of Authorization: as needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed, signed, and dated MSA 6544-B form. If submitting electronically via direct data entry in CHAMPS, this PA request form is not required. • Medical documentation including Model for End-Stage Liver Disease (MELD) score (>12 years of age); Pediatric End-Stage Liver Disease (PELD) score (for <12 years of age) and recommendation for transplant completed by a hepatologist, transplant surgeon/team • Psychosocial assessment • Approval letter from transplant team/committee
Pancreas	<p>Pancreatic disease/failure not remediable by more conservative measures and amenable to surgical intervention for which transplant provides the best therapeutic potential.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial authorization: 1 year • Continuation of authorization: Request extended prior authorization as needed, and submitted with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Updated medical documentation ○ Updated psychological/social work assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed, signed, and dated MSA-6544-B form. If submitting electronically via direct data entry in CHAMPS, this PA request form is not required. • Medical documentation, including recommendation for transplant completed by an endocrinologist, gastroenterologist, transplant surgeon/team • Psychosocial assessment • Approval letter from transplant team/committee
Bone Marrow/Hematopoietic Stem Cell	<p>Hematopoietic, bone marrow proliferative, or other diseases not remediable by more conservative measures and amenable to transplant intervention, and diagnoses for which transplant provides best therapeutic potential.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial authorization: 1 year • Continuation of authorization: Request extended prior authorization as needed, and submitted with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Updated medical documentation ○ Updated psychological/social work assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed, signed, and dated MSA-6544-B form. If submitting electronically via direct data entry in CHAMPS, this PA request form is not required. • Medical documentation, including recommendation for transplant completed by a hematologist, metabolic geneticist, oncologist, transplant surgeon/team • Psychosocial assessment • Approval letter from transplant team/committee
Cornea	<p>Corneal disease or trauma not remediable by more conservative measures and amenable to surgical</p>	<p>Does not require prior authorization</p>	<p>Documentation to be maintained in the beneficiary's medical record:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment and recommendations of

Organ	Medical Necessity Criteria	Approval Duration	Required Documentation
	intervention, and diagnoses for which transplant provides best therapeutic potential.		suitability for transplantation completed by an ophthalmologist, transplant surgeon/team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Psychosocial assessment
Intestine	Intestinal disease not remediable by more conservative measures and amenable to surgical intervention, and diagnoses for which transplant provides the best therapeutic potential.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial authorization: 1 year • Continuation of authorization: Request extended prior authorization as needed, and submitted with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Updated medical documentation ○ Updated psychological/social work assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed, signed, and dated MSA-6544-B form. If submitting electronically via direct data entry in CHAMPS, this PA request form is not required. • Medical documentation, including recommendation for transplant completed by a gastroenterologist, intestinal transplant surgeon/team • Psychosocial assessment • Approval letter from transplant team/committee

Prior Authorization

Prior authorization (PA) is required for beneficiary, donor, and potential donor services related to all organ transplants except cornea and kidney transplants. If transplantation of additional organ(s) is to occur during the same operative session as a cornea or kidney transplant, PA is required.

PA for transplant services, where applicable, is reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Approval is based on critical medical need for transplantation and a maximum likelihood of successful clinical outcomes with consideration for the following:

- All other medical and surgical therapies that might be expected to affect short- and long-term survival must have been tried or considered.
- The beneficiary is not in an irreversible terminal state and the transplant is likely to prolong life and/or restore a range of physical and social function to activities of daily living.

If the transplant occurs at a Medicaid-enrolled, in-state hospital, only the transplant services require PA. If the transplant is to be performed at an out-of-state hospital, both the psychosocial assessment and the transplant must be separately prior authorized.

In the event the organ transplantation is unable to be secured within the prior authorized timeframe, a request for continued authorization may be submitted and must include updated documentation. A Prior Authorization Certification Evaluation Review (PACER) for the hospital admission is still required per current policy. (Refer to the Hospital chapter of the [MDHHS Medicaid Provider Manual](#) for more information.)

A. Psychosocial Assessment

For those transplants requiring PA, prior to the organ transplant, the beneficiary must have a psychosocial assessment at a qualified transplant center. The assessment is conducted to assist in determining a beneficiary's psychological and social readiness for the demands and stresses associated with transplant surgery, recovery, and rehabilitation. When the psychosocial assessment indicates the beneficiary may require additional supports to overcome perceived or identified challenges during the transplant process, MDHHS will require additional information to determine the beneficiary's ability to successfully achieve the necessary treatment and healthcare requirements pre-/post-transplant.

If the transplant center determines the beneficiary is a transplant candidate, the attending physician must submit the results from the psychosocial assessment and medical evaluation with the PA request to the MDHHS Program Review Division for evaluation by the Office of Medical Affairs (OMA). Requests for beneficiaries with Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS)-only coverage must also be submitted to the Program Review Division.

(Refer to the General Information for Providers Chapter, Children's Special Health Care Services Chapter, and the Directory Appendix of the MDHHS Medicaid Provider Manual for additional language and webpage location of Fee-for-Service Medicaid Prior Authorization Organ Transplant Criteria.)

B. Third Party Liability (or Coordination of Benefits)

PA is not required if Medicare makes payment and Medicaid liability is limited to coinsurance and deductible. If a Medicare application is pending, the provider must indicate that on the PA request and notify MDHHS when the determination is made. All other insurance resources must be exhausted before Medicaid is billed. The denial notice(s) must be submitted with the claim. (Refer to the Coordination of Benefits Chapter of the MDHHS Medicaid Provider Manual for additional policy on other insurance.)

Donor and Donor Search

Medically necessary expenses incurred by a Medicaid-eligible or non-eligible living donor that are directly associated with a Medicaid-covered transplant may be covered. The donor must exhaust all possible insurance sources before Medicaid is billed for the services.

Covered services include:

- Evaluation to determine if the person is a candidate for living donation
- Donation surgery
- Post-operative care through the procurement process
- Transportation and lodging for related medical services
- Paired organ donation

Expenses incurred for complications that arise with respect to the donor are covered only if they are directly and immediately attributed to the organ transplant surgery. Should the Medicaid-covered beneficiary expire or loses Medicaid eligibility, donor services will continue to be covered.

When the donor search does not result in an organ acquisition and transplant, MDHHS reimburses for a donor search and related charges when billed as an outpatient service. Providers are required to submit a copy of the PA letter for the transplant with the claim and include a comment on the claim that the donor search was unsuccessful.

Medicaid Organ Donor for Non-Medicaid Recipient

When a Medicaid beneficiary is an organ donor for a non-Medicaid enrolled recipient, the acquisition of the organ is the responsibility of the recipient's health insurance. (Refer to the Billing & Reimbursement Chapters of the MDHHS Medicaid Provider Manual for additional billing information.)

Transportation and Lodging

MDHHS reimburses for transportation and lodging expenses associated with the evaluation and transplant for the qualified organ recipient and one accompanying individual (e.g., spouse, parent, guardian).

(Refer to the Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Chapter of the MDHHS Medicaid Provider Manual for further information.)

Manual Maintenance

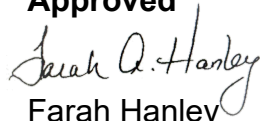
Retain this bulletin until the information has been incorporated into the MDHHS Medicaid Provider Manual.

Questions

Any questions regarding this bulletin should be directed to Provider Inquiry, Department of Health and Human Services, P.O. Box 30731, Lansing, Michigan 48909-8231, or e-mailed to ProviderSupport@michigan.gov. When you submit an e-mail, be sure to include your name, affiliation, NPI number, and phone number so you may be contacted if necessary. Typical Providers may phone toll-free 1-800-292-2550. Atypical Providers may phone toll-free 1-800-979-4662.

An electronic copy of this document is available at www.michigan.gov/medicaidproviders >> Policy, Letters & Forms.

Approved



Farah Hanley
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