

<b>Department of Origin:</b> Integrated Healthcare Services	<b>Effective Date:</b> 09/10/24
<b>Approved by:</b> Medical Policy Quality Management Subcommittee	<b>Date Approved:</b> 09/10/24
<b>Clinical Policy Document:</b> Intervertebral Disc Prosthesis, Cervical and Lumbar	<b>Replaces Effective Clinical Policy Dated:</b> 09/28/23
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#### **PURPOSE:**

The intent of this clinical policy is to ensure services are medically necessary.

Please refer to the member's benefit document for specific information. To the extent there is any inconsistency between this policy and the terms of the member's benefit plan or certificate of coverage, the terms of the member's benefit plan document will govern.

#### **POLICY:**

Benefits must be available for health care services. Health care services must be ordered by a provider. Health care services must be medically necessary, applicable conservative treatments must have been tried, and the most cost-effective alternative must be requested for coverage consideration.

#### **GUIDELINES:**

Medical Necessity – Must satisfy the following: I - II, and not III

- I. Cervical Spine – Requests for intervertebral disc prosthesis at 1 or 2 contiguous levels from C3-C7 – must satisfy all of the following: A – D, and not E
  - A. The member is skeletally mature; and
  - B. The member has *cervical radiculopathy* or *myelopathy* which has failed at least 6 weeks of conservative treatment within 1 year prior to the scheduled surgery date. The conservative treatment must have included physical therapy, unless there is evidence of a neurosurgical emergency, such as, but not limited to *cord compression*; and
  - C. Findings on imaging, based on an official radiology report, show any of the following: 1 - 4
    1. Herniated disc; or
    2. Osteophytes (bone spurs); or
    3. Loss of disc height; or
    4. Foraminal stenosis.
  - D. Recent imaging has reasonably excluded alternate causes of pain.
  - E. Intervertebral disc prosthesis (artificial disc replacement) at one or more level(s) combined with spinal fusion (arthrodesis) at another level (adjacent or non-adjacent) (also known as a *hybrid procedure*) is investigative (see Investigative List).
- II. Lumbar Spine – Requests for single-level intervertebral disc prosthesis – must satisfy all of the following: A – E, and not F
  - A. The member is skeletally mature; and
  - B. The member has low back pain which has failed at least 6 months of conservative treatment within 1 year prior to the scheduled surgery date. The conservative treatment must have included

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physical therapy, unless there is evidence of *cord compression*; and

- C. Findings on imaging show either 3mm or less of *spondylolisthesis* or no more than Grade I *spondylolisthesis* localized to the disc space being treated; and
- D. Recent imaging has reasonably excluded alternate causes of pain; and
- E. The targeted surgical level has been determined to be the member's primary pain generator per localizing symptoms, localizing signs, imaging or ancillary studies (eg, discogram).
- F. Intervertebral disc prosthesis (artificial disc replacement) at one or more level(s) combined with spinal fusion (arthrodesis) at another level (adjacent or non-adjacent) (also known as a *hybrid procedure*) is investigative (see Investigative List).

III. Use of intervertebral disc prostheses are not indicated for any of the following: A - B

- A. Placement of prosthetic intervertebral discs for persons who have symptomatic degenerative disc disease or signs and symptoms of herniated disc beyond the proposed surgical site.
- B. Placement of a prosthetic intervertebral disc that would result in more than 2 contiguous cervical artificial discs.

#### **EXCLUSIONS (not limited to):**

Refer to member's Certificate of Coverage or Summary Plan Description

The following are considered investigative (see Investigative List): I - III

- I. Intervertebral thoracic disc prosthesis
- II. Intervertebral lumbar disc prosthesis at more than one level
- III. Intervertebral disc prosthesis (artificial disc replacement) at one or more level(s) combined with spinal fusion (arthrodesis) at another level (adjacent or non-adjacent) (also known as a *hybrid procedure*)

#### **DEFINITIONS:**

##### Cervical Radiculopathy:

Disease marked by cervical nerve root compression/impingement due to herniated disc material, osteophytes (bone spurs), cervical spondylosis, and others. This typically produces neck and radiating arm pain or numbness in the pathway of a specific nerve root, sensory deficits, or motor dysfunction in the neck and upper extremities.

##### Cord Compression/Thecal Sac Compression:

Radiologic evidence of indentation of the thecal sac or spinal cord compression, whether or not there are neurologic signs and symptoms associated with compression.

##### Hybrid procedure:

Intervertebral disc prosthesis (artificial disc replacement) at one or more level(s) level combined with spinal fusion surgery at another level (adjacent or non-adjacent).

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#### Myelopathy:

Any neurologic deficit related to the compression of the spinal cord, usually due to osteophytes (bone spurs) or disc herniation, sometimes also caused by trauma, carcinoma metastatic to bone, cysts, and benign neoplasms.

#### Spinal Instability:

According to the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, instability is defined as an abnormal response to applied loads, characterized by movement in the motion segment beyond normal constraints. A motion segment is the smallest functional spinal unit exhibiting the generic biomechanical characteristics of the spine. It consists of two adjacent vertebrae, an intervertebral disc, various ligaments and apophyseal joints. Stability to the motion segment is provided by the ligaments, facet joints and intervertebral discs which restrict its range of movements.

#### Spondylolisthesis:

A condition in which a vertebra usually located in the lower region of the spine slips from its original position and slides forward over the vertebra located below it.

#### Spondylolisthesis Grades:

Grade I	25% of vertebral body has slipped forward
Grade II	50%
Grade III	75%
Grade IV	100%
Grade V	Vertebral body completely fallen off (ie, spondyloptosis)

#### Spondylolysis:

A defect in the pars interarticularis of the neural arch, that portion of the neural arch that connects the superior and inferior articular facets.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Intervertebral disc prosthesis is also known as total disc replacement (TDR), artificial disc replacement, and total disc arthroplasty.

The intervertebral disc prosthesis must be FDA-approved for both the condition and the number of levels being treated.

Examples of FDA-approved cervical prosthetic intervertebral discs include the Bryan® Cervical Disc, M6-C™ Artificial Cervical Disc, Mobi-C® Cervical Disc Prosthesis, PCM® Cervical Disc System, Prestige® Cervical Disc System, ProDisc™ - C Total Disc Replacement, SECURE®-C Cervical Artificial Disc, Simplify® Cervical Artificial Disc, and Prestige® LP cervical artificial intervertebral disc.

Examples of FDA-approved lumbar prosthetic intervertebral discs include the activL® Artificial Disc, the Charite® / INMOTION® Artificial Disc, and the ProDisc®-L Total Disc Replacement. Currently, there are no FDA-approved thoracic intervertebral disc prosthetic devices.

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Prior Authorization: Yes, per network provider agreement.  
Precertification: Yes

#### **CODING:**

CPT® or HCPCS

22856 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach, including discectomy with end plate preparation (includes osteophylectomy for nerve root or spinal cord decompression and microdissection); single interspace, cervical  
22857 Insertion of artificial disc between bones of lower spine, single space  
22858 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach, including discectomy with end plate preparation (includes osteophylectomy for nerve root or spinal cord decompression and microdissection); second level, cervical (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)

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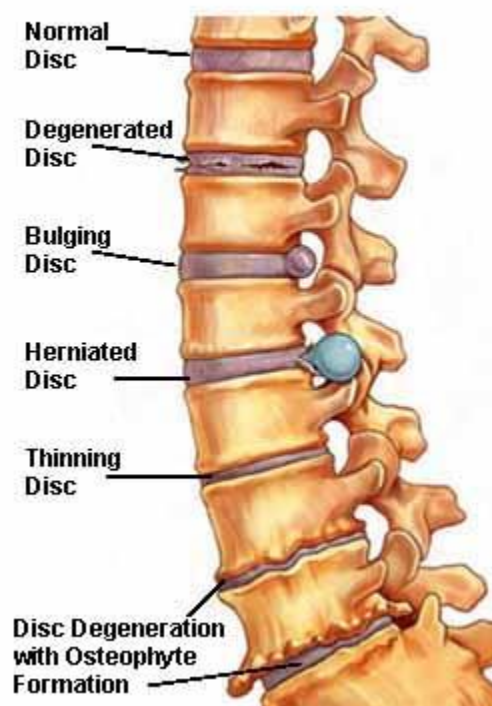
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## Attachment A

### Examples of Disc Problems



Source: Spineuniverse; Intervertebral Disc Replacement A Role in the Management of Chronic Low Back Pain Caused by Degenerative Disc Disease <https://www.spineuniverse.com/treatments/emerging/artificial-discs/intervertebral-disc-replacement>



# Nondiscrimination & Language Access Policy



Discrimination is Against the Law. Aspirus Health Plan, Inc. complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, (including sex characteristics, including intersex traits; pregnancy or related conditions; sexual orientation, gender identity and sex stereotypes), consistent with the scope of sex discrimination described at 45 CFR § 92.101(a)(2). Aspirus Health Plan, Inc. does not exclude people or treat them less favorably because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

Aspirus Health Plan, Inc.:

Provides people with disabilities reasonable modifications and free appropriate auxiliary aids and services to communicate effectively with us, such as:

- Qualified sign language interpreters.
- Written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats).

Provides free language assistance services to people whose primary language is not English, which may include:

- Qualified interpreters.
- Information written in other languages.

If you need reasonable modifications, appropriate auxiliary aids and services, or language assistance services, contact the Nondiscrimination Grievance Coordinator at the address, phone number, fax number, or email address below.

If you believe that Aspirus Health Plan, Inc. has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a *grievance* with:

Nondiscrimination Grievance Coordinator  
Aspirus Health Plan, Inc.  
PO Box 1890  
Southampton, PA 18966-9998  
Phone: 1-866-631-5404 (TTY: 711)  
Fax: 763-847-4010  
Email: customerservice@aspirushealthplan.com

You can file a *grievance* in person or by mail, fax, or email. If you need help filing a *grievance*, the Nondiscrimination Grievance Coordinator is available to help you.

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf>, or by mail or phone at:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, SW  
Room 509F, HHH Building  
Washington, D.C. 20201  
1.800.368.1019, 800.537.7697 (TDD)

Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>. This notice is available at Aspirus Health Plan, Inc.'s website: [https://aspirushealthplan.com/webdocs/70021-AHP-NonDiscrim\\_Lang-Assist-Notice.pdf](https://aspirushealthplan.com/webdocs/70021-AHP-NonDiscrim_Lang-Assist-Notice.pdf).

## Language Assistance Services

**Albanian:** KUJDES: Nëse flitni shqip, për ju ka në dispozicion shërbime të asistencës gjuhësore, pa pagesë. Telefononi në 1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711).

**Arabic:** تنبيه: إذا كنت تتحدث اللغة العربية، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية متاحة لك مجاناً. اتصل بن أعلى رقم الهاتف 1-800-332-6501 (رقم هاتف الصم والبك : 711)

**French:** ATTENTION: Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le 1-800-332-6501 (ATS: 711).

**German:** ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: 1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711).

**Hindi:** यान द : य द आप िहंदी बोलते ह तो आपके िलए मु त म भाषा सहायता सेवाएं उपल थ ह 1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711) पर कॉल कर ।

**Hmong:** LUS CEEV: Yog tias koj hais lus Hmoob, cov kev pab txog lus, muaj kev pab dawb rau koj. Hu rau 1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711).

**Korean:** 주의: 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. 1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711) 번으로 전화해 주십시오.

**Polish:** UWAGA: Jeżeli mówisz po polsku, możesz skorzystać z bezpłatnej pomocy językowej. Zadzwoń pod numer 1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711).

**Russian:** ВНИМАНИЕ: Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните 1-800-332-6501 (телетайп: 711).

**Spanish:** ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711).

**Tagalog:** PAUNAWA: Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, maaari kang gumamit ng mga serbisyo ng tulong sa wika nangwalang bayad. Tumawag sa 1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711).

**Traditional Chinese:** 注意：如果您使用繁體中文，您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711)

**Vietnamese:** CHÚ Ý: Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số 1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711).

**Pennsylvania Dutch:** Wann du Deutsch (Pennsylvania German / Dutch) schwetzscht, kannst du mitaue Koschte ebbergricke, ass dihr helft mit die englisch Schprooch. Ruf selli Nummer uff: Call 1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711).

**Lao:** ໂປດຊາບ: ຖ້າວ່າທ່ານເວົ້າພາສາລາວ, ການບໍລິການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອດ້ານພາສາໂດຍບໍ່ເສັຽຄ່າ, ຄວນມີພ້ອມໃຫ້ທ່ານ. ໂທ 1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711).