



IEHP UM Subcommittee Approved Authorization Guideline			
Guideline	Pain Management - Center of Excellence (COE)	Guideline #	UM_PA1 05
		Original Effective Date	8/8/2018
Section	Pain Management	Revision Date	5/31/2022

COVERAGE POLICY:

- A. IEHP offers a Pain Management - Center of Excellence (COE) for IEHP Direct Members with chronic pain who meet specific criteria listed below and who have failed traditional pain management modalities.
- B. Members may qualify for admission to a Pain Management COE if they have chronic, non-malignant pain and have met the criteria:
 - 1. Meet criteria for referral to a non-COE Pain Management Specialist, and
 - 2. At least two of the following medical complexities:
 - a. Current opioid use at 90 mg morphine milligram equivalents (MME) per day or greater
 - b. Refractory to multiple traditional pain management modalities, such as physical therapy, injections, and medications
 - c. Co-morbid behavioral health diagnosis and/ or substance use disorder diagnosis
 - d. Medical costs consistent with high utilization or ACG Rank Probability High Total Cost greater than 50%
- C. A program referral for the Pain Management - Center of Excellence must be submitted to the IEHP Integrated Complex Care Team for Pain for enrollment. Program referrals may be submitted to the Team from any IEHP Provider or IEHP Team Member (e.g., Case Management, Utilization Management, Behavioral Health). A multidisciplinary Pain Assessment must be completed upon approval for enrollment into the program.
- D. Program referrals are approved for 6 months and are re-evaluated for continued medical necessity for up to an additional 6 months, depending on the treatment plan.
 - 1. Clinical reviews are required at enrollment and every 3 months thereafter for the duration of the Program.
 - 2. Extensions are not granted except with proper documentation of medical justification and are only granted with the approval of a Medical Director.

COVERAGE LIMITATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS:

- A. Single discipline clinics and modality-oriented pain clinics are excluded from this Program.
- B. Members are those who have IEHP Medi-Cal as secondary, but Medicare as the primary insurer are excluded from this Program.
- C. Members who do not participate in the full range of program modalities or who no longer meet criteria for participation may be asked to dis-enroll from the Program prior to the Member’s program end date unless adequate documentation with medical justification from the Provider is submitted.

D. Members are not eligible to re-enroll in the same Pain Management COE once the program is completed. The Member can be evaluated for eligibility to an alternate Pain COE program.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

A. Please see Utilization Management Subcommittee Guideline, “Referral to Pain Management Specialist” for program referral to a non-COE Pain Management Specialist.

DEFINITION OF TERMS:

- A. Center of Excellence (COE) – a team or facility that specializes in a multidisciplinary approach with exceptionally high concentrations of expertise and related resources
- B. Multidisciplinary Pain Assessment – can include, but is not limited to, a medical history and physical, diagnostic work-up, an opioid risk assessment, and a behavioral health/ substance use risk assessment.
- C. Chronic pain is defined as pain that persists for at least three months.

REFERENCES:

1. Apollo Managed Care Guideline, 10th Edition, 2022. PAC02-050 Chronic Pain Management/Pain Centers. Accessed May 25, 2022.
2. CDC Opioids for Chronic Pain. Dowell D, TM Haegerich, R Chou. 2016. CDC guideline for prescribing opioids for chronic pain—United States, 2016. JAMA, Apr 19;315(15):1624-45.
3. Elrod JK, JL Fortenberry Jr. Centers of excellence in healthcare institutions: what they are and how to assemble them. 2017. BMC Health Serv Res.; 17 (Suppl 1): 425. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5516836/>. Accessed May 25, 2022.

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