

PRE-CERTIFICATION DOCUMENTATION CHECKLIST

**Avoid audits
and payment recoups**



Reduce your risk



Use the checklists



Major Spine and Total Joint Replacement procedures are increasingly under the gun for proper pre-certification and ultimately, payment of a clean claim. This is why Physician Strategy Group (PSG), USPI's consulting division, focused on the sustainability of the physician private practice, has spent the last few months heavily engaged with our surgeons, scheduling professionals and business office experts to fully understand the scope of challenges around major procedure pre-certification including its ultimate ramification - **payment**. PSG knows that physician practices work hard to play by the rules and fully understand that it is hard to do so effectively when they keep changing. This is especially true with trends such as pre-certification, which can substantially affect the physician's practice and its revenue.

Here are the challenges:

- The pre-certification process is getting harder for everything from simple MRIs to major surgical procedures
- Payers are requiring more clinical information for each pre-certification
- Not all payors require the same information
- Denials and "requests for additional information" are on the rise
- The pre-surgical documentation doesn't always support the service

HOW CAN YOU REDUCE YOUR RISK?

- Use the dictation checklists that PSG has created for major spine and TJR procedures. These lists will provide you with the accepted language to use in your dictation.
- By using the major procedure documentation checklists, you will significantly increase your odds of obtaining the required pre-certification required by the payor and decrease your odds of the RAC and other payor auditors finding a 'missed step' and requesting repayment of the claim.



For more information on PSG and its service offerings, please visit us at www.PhysicianStrategyGroup.com or give us a call toll free at **855.207.5230**.

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