



CLINICAL GUIDELINES

CMM-310: Spinal Manipulation Under Anesthesia

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VERSION 1.0.2026

EviCore
By ~~EVERNORTH~~

EviCore healthcare Clinical Decision Support Tool Diagnostic Strategies: This tool addresses common symptoms and symptom complexes. Imaging requests for individuals with atypical symptoms or clinical presentations that are not specifically addressed will require physician review. Consultation with the referring physician, specialist, and/or individual's Primary Care Physician (PCP) may provide additional insight.

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General Guidelines

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General Guidelines

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Health Equity Considerations

Health equity is the highest level of health for all individuals; health inequity is the avoidable difference in health status or distribution of health resources due to the social conditions in which individuals are born, grow, live, work, and age. Social determinants of health are the conditions in the environment that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality of life outcomes and risks. Examples include the following: safe housing, transportation, and neighborhoods; racism, discrimination, and violence; education, job opportunities, and income; access to nutritious foods and physical activity opportunities; access to clean air and water; and language and literacy skills.

Indications

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Indications

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Spinal manipulation under anesthesia (MUA) (i.e., when the individual is either sedated or under general anesthesia) is considered **medically necessary** when BOTH of the following criteria have been met:

- performed in an emergent situation as a closed treatment of a traumatically induced vertebral fracture or dislocation to mitigate the potential for neurological compromise when a qualified physician has considered the decision for an open reduction
- performed in conjunction with an active rehabilitation/home exercise program

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Non-Indications

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- Based on the lack of evidence of long-term efficacy and safety, spinal manipulation under anesthesia (MUA) performed in the absence of traumatically induced vertebral fracture or dislocation is considered **not medically necessary**.
- Spinal manipulation under anesthesia (MUA) performed in isolation (i.e., without the individual participating in an active rehabilitation program/home exercise program) is considered **not medically necessary**.

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Codes (CMM-310)

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Codes (CMM-310)

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The inclusion of any code in this table does not imply that the code is under management or requires prior authorization. Refer to the applicable health plan for management details. Prior authorization of a code listed in this table is not a guarantee of payment. The Certificate of Coverage or Evidence of Coverage policy outlines the terms and conditions of the member's health insurance policy.

Code	Code Description/Definition
22505	Manipulation of spine requiring anesthesia, any region.

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