

# High-Tech Radiology Site of Care

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the relationship between EviCore healthcare and Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield, New Jersey?

EviCore supports Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield, New Jersey in the provision of Prior Authorization and/or Medical Necessity Review (PA/MND) of certain services related to advanced radiology, musculoskeletal, diagnostic cardiology, medical oncology, radiation therapy and Gastroenterology services. This is an expansion of this oversight.

### What is the High-Tech Radiology Site of Care Program?

The site of care program has been developed to support our efforts to provide Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield, New Jersey's customers with coverage for the right care at the right place and at the right time. As a part of this program, precertification for high-tech radiology imaging will include a medical necessity review for the services requested and the service location. (Note this is for NJ locations only)

### When will the Program begin and which members will be included in the program?

Effective June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026, EviCore will include a site of care consideration as part of the medical necessity review for Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield, New Jersey's Commercial Fully Insured and Level Funded membership. Site of care medical necessity review will pertain to Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield, New Jersey's high-tech radiology program currently managed by EviCore.

### How will the Site of Care Program impact ordering providers?

There will be no change when ordering providers refer patients to a freestanding radiology center or another office-based location. If a provider directs a patient to an outpatient hospital setting for an MR or CT scan and there is an alternative free-standing site available, they will need to identify the clinical condition that warrants the need for the service to be performed there.

### How will the Site of Care Program impact service locations?

Hospitals will see a reduction in the number of outpatient MR and CT scans approved at their facilities. Freestanding radiology centers will see an increase in the number of MR and CT scans approved at their facilities.

### What procedures will require prior authorization through EviCore?

The Site of Care program will only be applied to following High-Tech Radiology services currently managed by EviCore:

- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
- Computed Tomography (CT)

- Select Magnetic Resonance Angiographies (MRA)
- Select Computed tomography Angiographies (CTA)

### Will the precertification process change?

There will be **no** changes to the current process for requesting precertification when requesting coverage for services provided at a freestanding radiology center or another preferred location.

**Note:** When requesting coverage for an outpatient hospital setting, providers will need to identify the clinical rationale for selecting that location. Providers and/or staff can continue to request precertification for high-tech radiology services by logging in to the EviCore website EviCore.com or by contacting our call center at 888.693.3297.

### What are the hours of operation for the contact call center?

EviCore healthcare's prior authorization call center is available from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday EST time. In addition, our website, EviCore.com, is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for providers to submit precertification requests.

Will urgent requests require Site of Care review?

**No, urgent requests will not be subject to site of care review. Services performed in an emergency room setting are already excluded from all precertification.**

### What is a reconsideration?

Providers and/or staff may be able to request a reconsideration of a denied or partially approved study by submitting additional clinical information without the need for a physician to participate. Reconsideration must be requested on or before the anticipated date the services will be performed. The reconsideration option is only applicable to commercial benefit plans.

### What is a Clinical Consultation? (Otherwise known as a Peer to Peer)

We welcome requests for a Clinical Consultation with an EviCore Medical Director. In certain instances, additional clinical information provided during the consultation is sufficient to satisfy the medical necessity criteria for approval.

A Clinical Consultation can only be performed by a requesting Physician, Nurse Practitioner or Physician Assistant.

Where can I view the Site of Care High –Tech Radiology Coverage Policy?

A copy of the Site of Care: High-tech Radiology coverage policy is available on the EviCore website at: [Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield, New Jersey Provider Resources | EviCore by Evernorth](#)

**How will requesting providers know if a member is included in the Site of Care program?**

Providers do not need to do anything, if a member is included in Site of Care program the precertification pathway will seamlessly recognize the member without any effort from the provider.

**If a rendering provider has questions about becoming a preferred site who should they contact?**

Please contact your Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield, New Jersey Contracting partner.