Matthew H. Mead
Governor

State of Wyoming
Department of Workforce Services
DIVISION OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION
1510 East Pershing Boulevard, South Wing
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002
http://www.wyomingworkforce.org

John Cox
Director
John Ysebaert
Deputy Director

PROVIDER BULLETIN

TOPIC: Spinal Cord Stimulator, Trial & Permanent-

Published by Wyoming Workers' Compensation Medical Case Management Unit and effective on **June 28, 2017**

Based on a re-review on June 28, 2017 the spinal cord stimulator policy will remain the same with no changes. Based on review of the current literature a spinal cord stimulator will be considered not reasonable or necessary, unless **ALL** the identified criteria are met:

- Prior lumbar surgery in the affected area at least 6 months prior and documented failed conventional treatment methods.
- Pain being treated is in a defined lumbosacral nerve root distribution as documented by an independent neurologist examination.
- No numbness in the affected nerve root distribution.
- Leg pain is greater than back pain.
- Demonstration of at least 50% pain relief and reduction of pain medications during the trial usage for at least 3 days.
- Functional analysis performed by an independent PT or OT prior to and during the trial.
- Trial period to last 7-14 days.
- Spinal cord stimulator will be considered for complex regional pain syndrome (CRPS I or II), or failed back surgery syndrome (FBSS).

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- Spinal cord stimulator will be considered investigational for (1) Failed Back Surgery Syndrome that does not meet all the surgical criteria and (2) axial back pain.

- Request for the trial and request for the permanent must be submitted separately. The permanent placement will not be approved unless specific criteria are met from the trial.

- Requests will be sent for peer review to a spinal surgeon at the time of the initial request for the trial placement. A second review is not required for the permanent placement.

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