

## Neuromodulation

### Check list for Documentation of Medical Necessity

**To:** Health Care Provider  
**From:** Boston Scientific Pre-authorization Support Department  
**Re:** Checklist for Documentation of Medical Necessity

Dear Health Care Provider,

**Boston Scientific Neuromodulation has found that it is helpful to insurers when the documentation of medical necessity for spinal cord stimulation includes the following information, documenting why the procedure or recommended course of action is needed. To expedite this process, we suggest that your documentation of medical necessity address the following:**

- ◊ **Duration of current treatment.** Six months clinical documentation of all conservative treatment modalities tried and failed.
- ◊ **Listing of current diagnosis(es).** ICD-9 codes required.
- ◊ **List of current and past medications.**
- ◊ **Relevant procedure (CPT) and supply (HCPCS) codes.**
- ◊ **Written documentation regarding whether further surgical intervention is recommended.**
- ◊ **Written documentation that the SCS device is being used as a LATE or LAST RESORT.**
- ◊ **Documentation that patient has no contraindications to implantation, such as sepsis or coagulopathy (bleeding issues).**
- ◊ **Address patient's psychological suitability for the recommended treatment and whether the patient has a history of drug abuse. *Psychological (narrative) Evaluation report required by most payers.***

Referencing the above items in your documentation and in a Letter of Medical Necessity may be useful to insurers because it succinctly summarizes the patient's history for the utilization reviewer and addresses what other treatment options have been exhausted prior to the SCS procedure. We encourage you to refer to this checklist and review the sample pre-authorization letters at [www.controlyourpain.com/preauthorization](http://www.controlyourpain.com/preauthorization) to further assist you in this process.

Should you have any questions, please contact our Pre-authorization Support Department at 866-287-0778.

**Our goal is to help simplify the pre-authorization process and assist your patients in receiving the best and most expeditious treatment.**

Sincerely,

Boston Scientific Pre-authorization Support Department

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