

February 15, 2012

Montana Health Care Programs Notice Physician, Mid-Level Practitioner, and Hospital Inpatient

Non-Coverage of Artificial Disc

Local Coverage Determination L24274 from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) states:

Effective May 16, 2006, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has found that lumbar artificial disc replacement (LADR) with the Charite lumbar artificial disc is not reasonable and necessary for the Medicare population over sixty years of age. For Medicare beneficiaries sixty years of age and under, there is no national coverage determination, leaving such determinations to be made on a local basis. Noridian Administrative Services (NAS) has determined that the FDA-approved artificial discs do not meet the reasonable and necessary criteria for the general Medicare population (including those under 60 years of age) and therefore are a non-covered service to Medicare beneficiaries.

Therefore, Montana's Medicaid Program will not cover the artificial discs: Codes 22856, 22857, 22861, 22862, 0092T, 0098T, 0163T, 0165T.

Codes 22864 and 22865 require prior authorization.

This notice replaces prior notices or policy related to artificial discs.

Contact Information

For claims questions or additional information, contact Provider Relations:

Provider Relations toll-free in- and out-of-state: 1-800-624-3958

Helena: (406) 442-1837

E-mail: MTPRHelpdesk@ACS-inc.com

Visit the Provider Information website:

<http://medicaidprovider.hhs.mt.gov>