



DECISION-MAKING RESOURCES GUIDELINE

Gold Coast Health Plan (GCHP) reviews specific clinical services to determine if the service request meets established, evidence based medical necessity criteria. This includes services which may be investigational or experimental. Clinical decision making takes a number of factors into account. First being regulatory requirements / medical necessity criteria, followed by GCHP clinical guidelines. This includes credible scientific evidence published in peer-reviewed medical literature generally recognized by the relevant medical community, physician specialty society recommendations, and the views of physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas who offer peer-reviewed assessments (such as through AMR), and other relevant factors as they relate to the member's clinical circumstances.

This document provides a hierarchical list of resources used for GCHP medical necessity reviews.

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

<https://www.cms.gov/>

California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Provider Manual

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/publications/Pages/Medi-CalProviderManuals.aspx>

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) – Clinical Information

<http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

<http://www.cdc.gov>

U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

<http://www.fda.gov>

National Comprehensive Cancer Network

<http://www.nccn.org>

National Library of Medicine – PubMed

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez>

UpToDate

<http://www.uptodate.com>

SPECIALTY SOCIETIES:

- **Allergy and Immunology**
American Academy of Asthma, Allergy and Immunology (AAAAI) <http://www.aaaai.org>
- **Anesthesiology**
American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) <http://www.asahq.org>
- **Colon and Rectal Surgery**
American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons (ASCRS) <http://www.fascrs.org>
- **Dermatology**
American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) <http://www.aad.org>
- **Emergency Medicine**
American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) <http://www.acep.org>
- **Family Medicine**
American Academy of Family Practice (AAFP) <http://www.aafp.org>



- **Internal Medicine**
American College of Physicians (ACP) <http://www.acponline.org>
- **Medical Genetics**
American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ACMG) <http://www.acmg.net>
- **Neurological Surgery**
American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) <http://www.aans.org>
- **Nuclear Medicine**
American College of Nuclear Medicine (ACNM) <https://acnmonline.org/>
- **Obstetrics and Gynecology**
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) <http://www.acog.org>
- **Ophthalmology**
American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) <http://www.aao.org>
- **Orthopedic Surgery**
American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) <http://www.aaos.org>
- **Otolaryngology**
American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery (AAO-HNS) <http://www.entnet.org>
- **Pathology**
College of American Pathologists (CAP) <http://www.cap.org>
American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) <http://www.ascp.org>
- **Pediatrics**
American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) <http://www.aap.org>
- **Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation**
American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (AAPM&R) <http://www.aapmr.org>
- **Plastic Surgery**
American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) <https://www.plasticsurgery.org/>
- **Preventive Medicine**
American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM) <http://www.acoem.org>
- **Psychiatry and Neurology**
American Psychiatric Association <http://www.psych.org>
American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) <http://www.aacap.org>
American Academy of Neurology (AAN) <http://www.aan.com>
Child Neurology Society (CNS) <http://www.childneurologysociety.org>
- **Radiology**
American College of Radiology (ACR) <http://www.acr.org>
American Society for Therapeutic Radiation and Oncology (ASTRO) <http://www.astro.org>
- **Surgery and Vascular Surgery**
American College of Surgeons (ACS) <http://www.facs.org>



- **Thoracic Surgery**
Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) <http://www.sts.org>
- **Urology**
American Urological Association (AUA) <http://www.auanet.org>

SUBSPECIALTY SOCIETIES

- **Cardiology**
American College of Cardiology (ACC) <http://www.acc.org>
- **Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology**
Heart Rhythm Society (HRS) <http://www.HRSonline.org>
- **Critical Care Medicine**
Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM) <http://www.sccm.org>
- **Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism**
American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists (AACE) <http://www.aace.com>
Endocrine Society <http://www.endocrine.org>
- **Gastroenterology**
American Gastroenterological Association (AGA) <http://www.gastro.org>
American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) <https://gi.org/guidelines/>
- **Geriatric Medicine**
American Geriatrics Society (AGS) <http://www.americangeriatrics.org>
- **Geriatric Psychiatry**
American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry (AAGP) <http://www.aagponline.org>
- **Gynecologic Oncology**
Society of Gynecologic Oncology (SGO) <http://www.sgo.org>
- **Hematology**
American Society of Hematology (ASH) <http://www.hematology.org>
- **Hospice and Palliative Medicine**
American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine (AAHPM) <http://www.aahpm.org>
- **Infectious Disease**
Infectious Disease Society of America (IDSA) <http://www.idsociety.org>
- **Medical Toxicology**
American College of Medical Toxicology <http://www.acmt.net>
- **Nephrology**
American Society of Nephrology (ASN) <http://www.asn-online.org>
- **Neuroradiology**
American Society of Neuroradiology (ASNR) <http://www.asnr.org>
- **Oncology**
American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) <http://www.asco.org>



- **Pain Medicine**
American Academy of Pain Medicine <https://painmed.org/clinician-resources/clinical-guidelines>
- **Pulmonary Disease**
American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP) <http://www.chestnet.org>
- **Reproductive Endocrinology / Infertility**
American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM) <http://www.asrm.org>
- **Rheumatology**
American College of Rheumatology (ACR) <http://www.rheumatology.org>
- **Sleep Medicine**
American Academy of Sleep Medicine (AASM) <http://www.aasmnet.org>
- **Sports Medicine**
American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine (AOSSM) <http://www.sportsmed.org>
- **Surgery of the Hand**
American Society for Surgery of the Hand (ASSH) <http://www.assh.org>
- **Transplant Hepatology**
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) <http://www.aasld.org>
American Society of Transplant Surgeons (ASTS) <http://www.aststs.org>
- **Undersea and Hyperbaric Medicine**
Undersea & Hyperbaric Medical Society (UHMS) <http://www.uhms.org>
- **Vascular and Interventional Radiology**
Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) <http://www.sirweb.org>

MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE GUIDELINE HISTORY			
Adopted By MAC	Reapproved	Revised	Retired
July 18, 2013			
	July 17, 2014		
	July 30, 2015		
	July 28, 2016		
	July 27, 2017		
		July 26, 2018	
	July 25, 2019		
		July 23, 2020	
	July 22, 2021		
		July 21, 2022	
		July 20, 2023	
		July 12, 2024	
MAC Sunset July 18, 2024			
CREDENTIALING / PEER REVIEW COMMITTEE GUIDELINE HISTORY			
Adopted By CPRC	Reapproved	Revised	Retired
		June 5, 2025	