

When submitting authorization requests to TurningPoint Healthcare Solutions LLC for musculoskeletal procedures, you must include the following clinical documentation:\*

Requirement	Details
Office visit notes	<p>Must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History of present illness</li> <li>• Results of physical exam</li> <li>• Past medical history</li> <li>• Surgical history (preferred, but not necessary for every case)</li> </ul>
Imaging reports	<p>Submit all available imaging reports.</p> <p>TurningPoint will accept objective documentation from the surgeon for X-rays taken and read in house.</p> <p>For images taken outside of the provider's office, send the radiology report.</p> <p>If there are differences between the surgeon's and the radiologist's interpretations of imaging, TurningPoint will request addendums to the radiology report for clarification.</p>
Conservative therapies	<p>Conservative therapy requirements differ by procedure type.</p> <p>Include documentation in the medical record that details the type, frequency, duration and response to each type of conservative therapy. Also specify which provider prescribed each type of therapy.</p> <p>The required details may include any combination of the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medication (anti-inflammatories, analgesics)</li> <li>• Physical therapy</li> <li>• Activity modifications</li> <li>• Injections</li> </ul> <p>See specific medical policies for further details.</p> <p>A detailed home exercise program may be accepted for certain procedures, if completed in place of PT. The home exercise program should be instructed by a physician (MD or DO), physical therapist, athletic trainer or physician assistant.</p> <p>If TurningPoint can't determine whether the patient has tried and failed the course of therapy based on the details you provide, they will request PT notes or detailed information about the home exercise program.</p>

## Clinical documentation requirements for musculoskeletal procedures

For Blue Cross commercial, Medicare Plus Blue<sup>SM</sup>,  
Blue Care Network commercial and BCN Advantage<sup>SM</sup>

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Requirement	Details
Body mass index	<p>If appropriate, the medical record must provide evidence of weight reduction activities as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For a BMI of 30 to 34, the medical record must reflect that the surgeon has had a discussion with the patient about his or her weight.</li> <li>For a BMI of 35 to 40, the medical record must include a documented plan for weight loss.</li> <li>For a BMI greater than 40, most lower-extremity procedures are contraindicated, unless significant weight loss is clearly documented in the medical record. However, TurningPoint reviews these requests on a case-by-case basis.</li> </ul>
Smoking status	<p>Include the patient's current smoking status.</p> <p>For patients who are smokers, include documentation of the discussion between the provider and the patient to show that the patient is aware of the increased risks of complication that result from nicotine use.</p> <p>If applicable, include the date on which the patient quit smoking.</p>
Surgical plan	<p>Include clear and detailed documentation of the surgical plan and rationale from the surgeon, including all procedures to be performed and specific anatomical locations.</p> <p>Note: The surgical plan should be consistent with the patient's diagnosis, and the prior medical workup should have been thorough and ruled out other causes.</p>

\*See GN-1002 Medical Record Documentation for documentation requirements. This documentation is included with all TurningPoint medical policies, which you can find in the TurningPoint Provider Portal.