



Coverage guide for non-interventional treatments of the back and spine

Oregon’s Health Evidence Review Commission (HERC) approved changes to coverage for the treatment of all back and spine conditions for the Oregon Health Plan. Beginning July 1, 2016, EOCCO implemented these changes.

As of July 1, 2016, EOCCO requires providers to submit the total score and sub-score from The Keele STarT Back Screening Tool with the authorization request.

The grid below outlines the coverage for non-interventional treatments for low back pain depending on the scores from the Keele STarT Back Screening Tool and if the member is on opioids and being tapered.

Questions 1 to 4 Score:	Subscore; Questions 5-9 Score:	Total Risk Score	Active Opioid Taper Plan	Allowed Visits (within a rolling 12 months)	Modalities Included in Approved Visits
1 to 3	0	1 to 3	No	Up to 4 total visits; Notification required	PT/OT, OMT/CMT Acupuncture Massage
1 to 3	0	1 to 3	Yes	Allowed first 4 visits with notification, and up to 30 total visits with prior authorization	PT/OT, CBT, Yoga or other Supervised Exercise Therapy, Chiropractic, Acupuncture, Massage, OMT/CMT, Intensive Interdisciplinary rehabilitation
4 (Max score)	0 to 5	4 to 9	Yes or No		

EOCCO will allow the first 4 visits in a rolling 12 months with a low back pain diagnosis. Please fax or call in a notification for the first 4 visits. A notification will be placed on the member’s file.

Prior authorization and medical necessity review is required after the first 4 visits. Upon submission of the prior authorization request, chart notes, the Keele STarT Back Screening Tool scores and taper plan (if applicable) should be included.

NOTE: ALL therapies must be administered by a provider licensed to offer the therapy.

PT - Physical therapy

OT - Occupational therapy

CBT - Cognitive behavioral therapy

OMT - Osteopathic manipulative treatment - Concentrative movement therapy

Consideration for benefits beyond the annual allowable number of non-interventional services requires review by an EOCCO Medical Director for exceptional circumstances.

For more information please utilize the links below:

To access the Keele STarT Back Screening Tool, the Referral and Authorization form or an Opioid Taper form please visit <http://eocco.com/providers/forms.shtml>.

For more information about Oregon Health Plan's coverage of conditions of the back and spine, please visit HERC's Prioritized List of Covered Services at <http://www.oregon.gov/oha/herc/Pages/PrioritizedList.aspx>.

To access resources regarding the Opioid Taper plan provided by the Oregon Health Authority, please visit: [OHA Opioid Tapering Resources](#)