

Outpatient GYN precertification initiative

Amerigroup Community Care requires outpatient GYN procedures and surgeries to be provided at an ambulatory surgery center (ASC) or provider office unless precertified at a hospital in the following counties: Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Howard County, Montgomery County and Prince George's County. Effective March 1, 2019, only the services that cannot be provided safely and effectively at a freestanding ASC or office will be approved to be performed at the hospital.

What is the impact of this change?

Unless there is a medical reason for providing the outpatient GYN procedures and surgeries listed on the provided code list in a hospital, the services must be performed at a freestanding ASC or in an office. Members who are 18 years of age or younger are excluded from this initiative.

Providers should review Section 1 of this communication for a list of procedure codes that will require precertification to be performed in a hospital. For code-specific precertification requirements, please refer to <https://providers.amerigroup.com/MD> > Provider Resources & Documents > Quick Tools > select Precertification Lookup Tool.

Providers should review Section 2 for a list of participating ASCs that offer GYN services.

This initiative applies to providers in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Howard County, Montgomery County and Prince George's County and covers all GYN codes listed on our provider website.

How do I obtain precertification?

You must call Provider Services at 1-800-454-3730 and provide clinical documentation showing a medical reason why the member needs to have an outpatient GYN procedure done in a hospital.

What if I need assistance?

If you have questions about this communication or need assistance with any other item, contact your local Provider Relations representative or call Provider Services at 1-800-454-3730.

Thank you for the quality care you provide to our members.

* Participating provider listings change periodically. For the latest list of participating ASCs offering services, see our provider directory at <https://providers.amerigroup.com/MD> or call Provider Services at 1-800-454-3730 to find the facility most convenient for your patient.

Medical necessity criteria

List of relevant case or member-specific facts that support the use of hospital-based or regulated space procedures. Reasons may include but are not limited to:

- Ability of a freestanding site of service to safely and adequately accommodate and support the member in the course of treatment because of specialized equipment or staff skill set
- Access or availability of a freestanding site of service within the 30-minute or 30-mile standard
- Member is 18 years of age or younger
- Suffering from any of the following conditions:
 - Respiratory disease
 - Asthma
 - Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease/emphysema
 - Sleep apnea and actively using continuous positive airway pressure
 - Cardiac disease
 - Congestive heart failure symptomatic in the last month (any episode of documented or active congestive heart failure, emergency room visit, admission, worsening chronic congestive heart failure, recent adjustment of medicines, etc.)
 - Myocardial infarction within the last six weeks
 - Arrhythmia within the last six weeks
 - Pacemaker in place
 - Automatic implantable cardioverter defibrillator in place
 - On warfarin or another anticoagulant
 - On Plavix® or another platelet inhibitor
- Severe anemia/hematocrit < 25%, platelets < 30,000
- Morbid obesity/body mass index > 40
- History of any complication with sedation, anesthesia or surgery

Section 1: Procedure codes required for precertification in a hospital

The following procedure codes will require precertification to be performed in a hospital. Providers must provide a medical reason why the procedure must be performed in a hospital setting.

Procedures performed in association with an ER visit or associated with an outpatient surgery performed at a hospital on the same day will not require precertification.

Procedure code	Procedure description
57500	Biopsy of cervix, single or multiple, or local excision of lesion, with or without fulguration (separate procedure)
57505	Endocervical Curettage (not done as part of a dilation & curettage)
57510	Cauterization, Cervix; Electro/Thermal
57513	Cauterization, Cervix; Laser Ablation
57520	Conization, Cervix W/Wo Fulguration, W/Wo D&C/Repair; Cold Knife/Laser

Procedure code	Procedure description
57522	Conization, Cervix W/Wo Fulguration, W/Wo D&C/Repair; Loop
58100	Endometrial Bx W/Wo Endocervical Bx, W/O Dilation, Any Method (separate procedure)
58120	Dilation & Curettage, Dx &/Or Therapeutic (nonobstetrical)
58555	Hysteroscopy, Dx (separate procedure)
58558	Hysteroscopy, Surgical; W/Endometrial Bx &/Or Polypectomy W/Wo D&C
58560	Hysteroscopy, Surgical; W/Division/Resection Intrauterine Septum, Any Method
58561	Hysteroscopy, Surgical; W/Removal Leiomyomata
58562	Hysteroscopy, Surgical, W/Removal Impacted Fb
58563	Hysteroscopy, Surgical; W/Endometrial Ablation
58565	Hysteroscopy, surgical; with bilateral fallopian tube cannulation to induce occlusion by placement of permanent implants
57500	Biopsy of cervix, single or multiple, or local excision of lesion, with or without fulguration (separate procedure)
57505	Endocervical Curettage (not done as part of a dilation & curettage)
57510	Cauterization, Cervix; Electro/Thermal
57513	Cauterization, Cervix; Laser Ablation
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Procedure code	Procedure description
58563	Hysteroscopy, Surgical; W/Endometrial Ablation
58565	Hysteroscopy, surgical; with bilateral fallopian tube cannulation to induce occlusion by placement of permanent implants

Section 2: Participating ASCs and providers

Baltimore City	
University of Maryland Surgical 419 W. Redwood St. Baltimore, MD 21201	
Baltimore County	
SurgiCenter of Baltimore 23 Crossroads Drive, Suite 100 Owings Mills, MD 21117	Timonium Surgery Center 1954 Greenspring Drive, Suite LL18 Lutherville-Timonium, MD 21093-4111
Towson Surgical Center 1122 Kenilworth Drive, Suite 17 Towson, MD 21204-2151	White Marsh Surgery Center 4924 Campbell Blvd. Nottingham, MD 21236-5908
Howard County	
Ellicott City Ambulatory Surgery Center 2850 N. Ridge Road Ellicott City, MD 21043-3464	University of Maryland Ambulatory Surgery Center 5900 Waterloo Road, Suite 120 Columbia, MD 21045-2636
Montgomery County	
Montgomery Surgery Center 46 W. Gude Drive Rockville, MD 20850	Maryland Surgery Center for Women 11400 Rockville Pike, Suite C25 Rockville, MD 20852-3063
Prince George's County	
Advantia Health Indian Creek Ambulatory Surgery Center* 12240 Indian Creek Court, Suite 130 Beltsville, MD 20705-1260	Forbes Ambulatory Surgery Center 7501 Forbes Blvd., Suite 103 Lanham, MD 20706-6201

* Privately owned ASC.