

Certificates of Medical Necessity

for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement by Medical Policy



Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Certificates of Medical Necessity Overview

This interactive document contains the Certificates of Medical Necessity specific to insurers with positive coverage of Lumbar Total Disc Replacement (LTDR) as well as a Nonspecific Certificate of Medical Necessity for all insurers not listed. The necessary Certificate of Medical Necessity can be sent directly to the commercial payer once all requirements are captured in the patient's chart. Please be aware that the Certificate of Medical Necessity may also be duplicated into your Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system from this document for ease of use.

For Commercial Insurers with Positive Coverage for LTDR:

If the patient's insurer has positive coverage of LTDR, the surgeon should use the Certificate of Medical Necessity specific to that patient's insurance during the appointment to ensure all requirements are captured in the patient's chart prior to the office's submission for prior authorization. If an insurer-specific Certificate of Medical Necessity is not available in this document, please use the Nonspecific Certificate of Medical Necessity.

- **Written Prior Authorization**

It is critical that, after the appointment for a patient with positive coverage for LTDR, the office seek written prior authorization. If all conservative care records and other records as required by the Medical Policy as noted in the Certificate of Medical Necessity are not provided, even a covering payer will deny the procedure. Exhaustive records submitted upon initial prior authorization are critical to the success of the patient's access to this procedure.

- **Denial of Written Prior Authorization**

If the office receives a denial for a written prior authorization for a payer covering LTDR and the patient meets the Certificate of Medical Necessity requirements, call the Patient Assistance Line (PAL), (contact information found below).

For Commercial Insurers without Positive Coverage for LTDR:

If the patient's insurer does not cover LTDR, the surgeon should still complete the Certificate of Medical Necessity, regardless of payer coverage status, as a back-up to surgeon charting. The Patient Assistance Line can assist in advocating for patients that are candidates for LTDR without positive coverage. Please find the PAL contact information below.

The activL Artificial Disc Patient Assistance Line (PAL)

Telephone: 844-245-1140

Fax: 844-285-1330

Cynthia@patientassistanceline.com

Disclaimer: This information is provided for informational purposes only. Healthcare providers are responsible for all decisions related to reimbursement. Providers are advised to contact payers to confirm benefits and coverage for each individual patient. The content above is subject to change without notice, as may be determined by the payer. Aesculap Implant Systems, LLC makes no representation or warranty regarding this information, its completeness or accuracy, and bears no responsibility for the results or consequences of the use of this information. It is intended to be a general overview of medical necessity criteria for this health plan. The criteria and contraindications checklist above may not be the same as the Indications/Contraindications approved by FDA. The above information represents acceptance criteria of the Healthcare Provider.

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

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AIM Specialty Health	
Policy Name: Lumbar Disc Arthroplasty	
Last Review: June 12, 2022	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

Age 18 to 60 years old; **and**
 Primary complaint of axial pain to be of discogenic origin; **and**
 Symptoms for at least 6 months, which have not responded to a multifaceted program of conservative treatment over that period of time. Conservative management to include a combination of strategies; **and**
 Presence of single level (or two-level as indicated), advanced disc disease at L3-S1, as documented by magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and plain radiographs demonstrating moderate to severe degeneration of the disc with Modic changes (peridiscal bone signal above and below the disc space in question). ; **and**
 Absence of symptomatic DDD at all other lumbar levels as documented by normal radiographs and MRI showing no abnormalities or mild degenerative changes.

Does not have any of the following contraindications:

- Significant facet arthropathy at the index level
- Disease above L4-L5 for activL
- Chronic radicular pain (1+ years)
- Poorly managed psychiatric disorder
- Bony lumbar spinal stenosis
- Pars defect
- Prior fusion at index level
- Clinically compromised vertebral bodies at affected level due to current or past trauma

- Lytic spondylolisthesis or degenerative spondylolisthesis of grade greater than 1
- Allergy or sensitivity to implant materials (cobalt, chromium, molybdenum, polyethylene, titanium)
- Presence of infection or tumor
- Osteopenia or osteoporosis (defined as dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry (DEXA) bone

The procedure is not comprised of any of the following deemed not medically necessary per your medical policy:

- Disc replacement at more than one spinal level (or two levels as indicated)
- Arthroplasty below, or in combination with, spinal fusion or other stabilizing-type procedure
- Prior spine surgery of any form at the target level
- Isolated radicular compression syndromes, especially due to disc herniation
- Hybrid lumbar TDA/Lumbar Fusion (lumbar total disc arthroplasty at one level at the same time as lumbar fusion at a different level)
- Arthroplasty using devices other than those which are FDA approved, or use of an FDA-approved device in a manner which does not meet FDA requirements

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Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL[®] Artificial Disc

Other:	
Notes:	
Device Requirements:	
Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling	
Single-level use only	
Enclosures	
<i>Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:</i>	
Medical records with evidence of at least one year of failed conservative treatment	
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level	
Certification and Signature	
<i>I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.</i>	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

BCBS of Arkansas	
Policy Name: Artificial Intervertebral Disc, Lumbar Spine	
Policy Number: 2004022	
Last Review: March 2022	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

18 to 60 years old; **and**
 Advanced single-level disease noted on an MRI and plain radiographs of the lumbar spine at L4-L5 or L5-S1, characterized by moderate to severe degeneration of the disc;
and
 Primary complaint of axial pain with a possible secondary complaint of lower extremity pain; **and**
 Presence of symptoms for at least one year that are not responsive to conservative treatment which should include a physical therapy/rehabilitation program; **and**

Absence of active significant psychiatric disorders, such as major depression requiring pharmaceutical treatment; **and**
 Absence of significant facet arthropathy at the operative level

Does not have any of the following contraindications:

Lumbar artificial intervertebral disc replacement in all other situations does not meet member benefit certificate primary coverage criteria thus the procedure is considered investigational.

Other:
Notes:
Device Requirements:
Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling
Single-level use only

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Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL[®] Artificial Disc

Enclosures	
<i>Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:</i>	
Medical records with evidence of at least one year of failed conservative treatment	
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level	
Behavioral health screening results	
Certification and Signature	
<i>I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.</i>	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

BCBS of FLORIDA	
Policy Name: Lumbar Spine Surgery	
Last Review: January 1, 2022	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

The individual is between the ages of 18 to 60
 Degenerative disc disease or significant discogenic back pain with disc degeneration is confirmed by documented patient history, physical examination, and key radiographic studies, with no more than Grade 1 (low level) spondylolisthesis demonstrated on x-ray at the operative level
 Imaging confirms absence of significant facet arthropathy at operative level
 At least six months of non-operative (conservative) treatment have failed to resolve symptoms
 Disc reconstruction with the device is performed at one level (or two levels as indicated) using an anterior retroperitoneal approach
 Implant is FDA approved for lumbar region and to be used in accordance with FDA labeling

Does not have any of the following contraindications:

Disease above L3-4

Active systemic or local infection
 Osteoporosis or osteopenia (DEXA bone mineral density T-score less than or equal to - 1.0)
 Vertebral bodies compromised by disease or prior trauma
 Allergy or sensitivity to implant materials
 Isolated lumbar radiculopathy (especially due to herniated disc)
 Chronic radiculopathy (unremitting especially leg symptoms lasting over 1 year)
 Spinal stenosis, or spinal deformity (scoliosis)
 Spondylolisthesis greater than Grade 1
 Disc degeneration requiring treatment at more than one level m
 Severe facet arthrosis or joint degeneration mm
 Presence of free disc fragment m
 Poorly managed psychiatric disorders

Other:

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Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL[®] Artificial Disc

Notes:	
Device Requirements:	
Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling	
Single-level use only	
Enclosures	
Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:	
Medical records with evidence of at least one year of failed conservative treatment	
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level	
Certification and Signature	
I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

BCBS of North Dakota	
Policy Name: Artificial Intervertebral Disc Replacement	
Policy Number: #S-9007-01	
Last Review: January 20, 2022	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

One-level degenerative disc disease (DDD) from L4-S1 as shown on CT or MRI; and
 Failure of 3 months of conservative therapy including BOTH of the following:
 A trial of non-steroidal anti-inflammatories (NSAIDs); and
 A documented trial of up to six-weeks of physical therapy; and

The individual is between 18-65 years old; and
 Symptoms are localizable to one-level in the L4-S1 area; and
 Absence of moderate or severe facet joint arthropathy confirmed by CT or MRI.
 Lumbar artificial intervertebral disc replacement is considered experimental/investigational and therefore non-covered when ALL of the above criteria are not met.

Other:
Notes:
Enclosures
Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:
Medical records with evidence of 3+ months of failed conservative treatment
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level

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Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar
Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Certification and Signature	
<i>I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.</i>	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

BCBS of South Carolina	
Policy Name: Lumbar Spinal Procedures	
Last Review: April 2022	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

The individual is between the ages of 18 to 60
 Degenerative disc disease or significant discogenic back pain with disc degeneration is confirmed by documented patient history, physical examination, and key radiographic studies
 No more than Grade 1 (low level) spondylolisthesis demonstrated on x-ray at the operative level(s)
 Imaging confirms absence of significant facet arthropathy at operative level(s)
 At least six months of non-operative (conservative) treatment have failed to resolve symptoms
 Disc reconstruction with the device is performed at one level (or two levels as indicated) using an anterior retroperitoneal approach
 The device used as the disc replacement device is FDA-approved for lumbar disc replacement and is used in accordance with FDA labelling

Does not have any of the following contraindications:

Disease above L3-4
 Active systemic or local infection
 Osteoporosis or osteopenia (DEXA bone mineral density T-score less than or equal to -1.0), or vertebral bodies compromised by disease or prior trauma
 Allergy or sensitivity to implant materials
 Isolated lumbar radiculopathy (especially due to herniated disc), or chronic radiculopathy (unremitting especially leg symptoms lasting over 1 year)
 Spinal stenosis, or spinal deformity (scoliosis)
 Spondylolisthesis greater than Grade 1
 Disc degeneration requiring treatment at more than one level (or two levels as indicated)
 Severe facet arthrosis or joint degeneration
 Presence of free disc fragment
 Poorly managed psychiatric disorder

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Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar
Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Other:	
Notes:	
Device Requirements:	
Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling	
Single-level use only	
Enclosures	
Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:	
Medical records with evidence of at least one year of failed conservative treatment	
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level	
Certification and Signature	
I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Blue Shield of California	
Policy Name: Lumbar Spine Surgery	
Policy Number: BSC_NIA_CG_304	
Last Review: February 1, 2022	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

Between ages of 18 and 60
 Degenerative disc disease or significant discogenic back pain with disc degeneration confirmed by documented patient history, physical exam, and radiographic studies
 No more than Grade 1 (low level) spondylolisthesis based on x-ray at operative level
 DDD is limited to the single spinal level at which the lumbar TDA is planned
 No significant facet arthropathy at operative level
 At least six months of non-operative treatment noted in medical records, including physical therapy/rehabilitation program with cognitive behavioral components, pain management injections and active exercise program

Active systemic or local infection
 Osteoporosis or osteopenia or vertebral bodies compromised by disease or prior trauma
 Allergy or sensitivity to implant materials
 Isolated lumbar radiculopathy (especially due to herniated disc) or chronic radiculopathy (unremitting especially leg symptoms lasting over 1 year)
 Spinal stenosis or scoliosis
 Spondylolisthesis greater than Grade 1
 Disc degeneration requiring treatment of more than one level
 Severe facet arthrosis or joint degeneration
 Presence of free disc fragment
 Poorly managed psychiatric disorders

Does not have any of the following contraindications:

Disease above L4-L5 (for activL® Artificial Disc)

Other:
Notes:

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Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL[®] Artificial Disc

Device Requirements:	
Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling	
Single-level use only	
Enclosures	
<i>Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:</i>	
Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment	
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level	
Certification and Signature	
<i>I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.</i>	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

CareFirst	
Policy Name: Vertebral Disc Replacement: Lumbar Disc Prostheses	
Policy Number: 7.01.088	
Last Review: June 1, 2020	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

Skeletally mature
 DDD at only one (1) level in the lumbar spine from L4-S1
 Have had no relief from pain after at least 6 months of non-surgical treatment
 No more than 3 mm spondylolisthesis at the involved level

Does not have any of the following contraindications:

Active systemic infection or infection localized to the site of implantation;
 Osteopenia or osteoporosis defined as DEXA bone density measured T-score < -1.0;
 Bony lumbar spinal stenosis;
 Allergy or sensitivity to implant materials (cobalt, chromium, molybdenum, polyethylene, titanium);
 Isolated radicular compression syndromes, especially due to disc herniation;

Pars defect;
 Involved vertebral endplate that is dimensionally smaller than 34.5 mm in the medial-lateral and / or 27 mm in the anterior-posterior directions;
 Clinically compromised vertebral bodies at the affected level due to current or past trauma;
 Lytic spondylolisthesis or degenerative spondylolisthesis of grade > 1;
 Prior spinal fusion;
 Moderate to severe degenerative facet joint disease

The procedure is not comprised of any of the following deemed not medically necessary per your medical policy:

Vertebral Disc Replacement at more than one level
 Patients who do not meet the above criteria.

Other:
Notes:

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Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Device Requirements:	
Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling	
Single-level use only	
Certification and Signature	
I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

CIGNA	
Policy Name: Intervertebral Disc (IVD) Prostheses	
Policy Number: 0104	
Last Review: January 15, 2022	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

Chronic, unremitting, discogenic low back pain and disability secondary to single-level DDD
 The implant will be inserted at an FDA approved lumbar/sacral level specific to the implant being used
 Unremitting low back pain and significant functional impairment is refractory to at least six consecutive months of structured, physician supervised conservative medical management which includes ALL of the following components:
 Exercise, including core stabilization exercises;
 Nonsteroidal and/or steroidal medication (unless contraindicated);
 Physical therapy, including passive and active treatment modalities;
 Activity/lifestyle modification

The procedure is not comprised of any of the following deemed not medically necessary per your medical policy:

Hybrid
 Simultaneous multilevel implantation is planned
 The individual has osteopenia or osteoporosis (T-score <-1.0)
 The individual has a history of prior lumbar fusion
 The implant will be inserted outside of the recommended lumbar/sacral level for the specific implant being used
 There is evidence on imaging studies of ANY of the following: degenerative spondylolisthesis of Grade 2 or greater; infection; multilevel DDD: Nerve root compression or spinal stenosis; pars interarticularis defect with either spondylolysis or isthmic spondylolisthesis; scoliosis; severe facet joint arthrosis; spinal fracture; tumor.

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Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL[®] Artificial Disc

Other:	
Notes:	
Device Requirements:	
Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling Single-level use only	
Enclosures	
<i>Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:</i>	
Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment	
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level	
Certification and Signature	
<i>I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.</i>	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Emblem Health	
Policy Name: Artificial Intervertebral Disc Policy	
Policy Number: MG.MM.SU.46f	
Last Review: October 8, 2021	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
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OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

Skeletally mature
 Disease confirmed by radiographic imaging (e.g. CT or MRI followed by a discogram)
 Pain confined to operative level (by discogram)
 Pain score greater than or equal to 40 on Visual Analog Scale (VAS)
 Disability score greater than or equal to 30 on the Oswestry Low Back Pain Disability Questionnaire or Neck Disability Index
 At least six months of consistent, conservative treatment as noted in physician office progress notes, which demonstrate at least two have been tried: physical therapy, chiropractic care, ice/heat therapy, pharmacotherapy (e.g. oral/injectable analgesia such as NSAIDS, muscle relaxants, epidural/facet injections)

The procedure is not comprised of any of the following deemed not medically necessary per your medical policy:

Off label-use
 Insertion despite presence of contraindications identified within specific product labeling
 Previous spinal fusion/other spinal surgery at affected level
 Current or previous fracture at affected level
 Presence of infection

Other:

Notes:

Continued on next page

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL[®] Artificial Disc

Device Requirements:	
Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling	
Single-level use only	
Enclosures	
<i>Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:</i>	
Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment	
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level	
Certification and Signature	
<i>I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.</i>	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

eviCore	
Policy Name: Clinical Guidelines Spine Surgery: Lumbar Total Disc Arthroplasty	
Last Review: January 1, 2022	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

An FDA approved implant is used in accordance with FDA requirements
 Presence of chronic, unremitting, discogenic lower back pain and associated disability secondary to single-level degenerative disc disease (DDD) for at least one year.
 Age 18 to 60 years old
 Significant level of pain on a daily basis defined as EITHER of the following:
 Visual Analog Scale (VAS)/Numeric Rating Scale (NRS) as ≥ 7
 Severe, disabling, crippling, or incapacitating pain
 Clinically significant functional impairment (e.g., inability to perform household chores, prolonged standing or essential job functions)
 Absence of unmanaged significant behavioral health disorders (e.g., major depressive disorder, chronic pain syndrome, secondary gain, drug and alcohol abuse)
 Structured physician-supervised, multi-modal, nonoperative management of medical care with licensed healthcare professionals which includes ALL of the following:
 Regularly scheduled appointments
 Follow-up evaluation

Less than clinically meaningful improvement with BOTH of the following for at least 6 consecutive months unless contraindicated:
 Prescription strength analgesics, steroids, and/or NSAIDs
 Provider-directed exercise program prescribed by a physical therapist, chiropractic provider, osteopathic or allopathic physician
 Moderate to severe single-level disc degeneration at L4-L5, or L5-S1 has been confirmed or recent (with 6 months) plain radiographs and advanced diagnostic imaging studies (i.e., CT, MRI)
 Absence of significant facet arthropathy at the operative level

Lumbar artificial total disc arthroplasty is considered not medically necessary for ANY of the following:

The revision of a failed lumbar total disc arthroplasty
 The planned procedure includes the combined use of a prosthesis and spinal fusion (hybrid)
 Lumbar partial disc prosthetics
 Simultaneous multilevel implantation
 The implant will be inserted outside of the spinal motion segments approved by the FDA

Continued on next page

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

The individual has osteopenia or osteoporosis (T-score <-1.0)
 Above or below or in combination with a spinal fusion or other
 stabilizing type surgical procedure
 A lumbar disc prosthesis not approved by the FDA or for an FDA
 approved indication
 Degenerative disc disease above L4-L5
 Presence of unmanaged significant behavioral health disorders
 (e.g., major depressive disorder, chronic pain syndrome,
 secondary gain, drug and alcohol abuse)
 Age less than 18 or greater than 60
 As an adjunct to the treatment of primary central or far-lateral
 disc herniation
 There is evidence on imaging studies or ANY of the following:
 Lytic or degenerative spondylolisthesis of Grade 2 or greater.
 Lumbar bony spinal stenosis or Lumbar nerve root
 compression
 Pars interarticularis defect with either spondylolysis or
 isthmic spondylolisthesis

Scoliosis
 Spine fracture
 Active systemic infection, presence of tumor or active
 infection at the site or implantation.
 Multi-level degenerative disc disease (2 or more levels) on a
 preoperative MRI and plain radiographs
 Significant facet arthropathy at the operated level
 Presence of tumor or active infection at the site of
 implantation
 Lumbar nerve root compression or bony spinal stenosis
 Allergy or sensitivity to implant materials
 Isolated radicular compression syndromes especially due to
 lumbar disc herniation
 Involved vertebral endplate that is dimensionally smaller than
 the approximate dimensions of the implant in anterior/posterior
 width
 Clinically compromised vertebral bodies at the affected level
 due to current or past trauma

Other:

Notes:

Enclosures

Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:

Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment

Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level

Behavioral health screening

Certification and Signature

I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.

Surgeon Signature:

Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Excellus BCBS (Includes Univera Healthcare)	
Policy Name: Artificial Lumbar Intervertebral Disc	
Policy Number: 7.01.63	
Last Review: April 21, 2022	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

Use of an FDA Approved Implant
 Presence of chronic, unremitting, discogenic lower back pain and associated disability secondary to single-level degenerative disc disease (DDD) in a skeletally mature individual for at least one year
 Age 18-60 years old;
 Significant level of pain on a daily basis defined as either of the following:
 1. Visual Analog Scale (VAS)/Numeric Rating Scale (NRS) as greater than or equal to 7;
 2. Severe, disabling, crippling, or incapacitating pain;
 Clinically significant functional impairment such as the inability to perform household chores, prolonged standing or essential job functions); and
 Absence of unmanaged significant behavioral health disorders (e.g., major depressive disorder, chronic pain syndrome, secondary gain, drug and alcohol abuse);
 Structured physician-supervised, multi-modal, nonoperative management of medical care with licensed healthcare professionals which includes ALL of the following:
 Regularly scheduled appointments;
 Follow-up evaluation;
 Less than clinically meaningful improvement with BOTH of the following for at least 6 consecutive months unless contraindicated:

Prescription strength analgesics, steroids, and/or NSAIDs;
 and
 Provider directed exercise program prescribed by a physical therapist, chiropractic provider, osteopathic or allopathic physician.

Moderate to severe single-level disc degeneration at L4-L5 or L5-S1 has been confirmed on recent (within 6 months) plain X-rays and advanced diagnostic imaging studies (i.e., CT, MRI);
 Absence of significant facet arthropathy at the operative level.

Documentation of Nicotine Free Status:

Patient is a non-tobacco user, or
 Patient must have abstained from tobacco use for at least 6 weeks prior to the planned spinal fusion surgery as evidenced by lab results (cotinine level) documenting nicotine-free status (NOTE: in order to complete the prior authorization process for spinal fusion surgery, planning should allow for enough time to submit lab results performed after the 6-week tobacco abstinence period.

Does not have any of the following contraindications:

The revision of a failed lumbar total disc arthroplasty
 The planned procedure includes the combined use of a prosthesis and spinal fusion (hybrid)
 Lumbar partial disc prosthetics

Continued on next page

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Simultaneous multilevel implantation

The implant will be inserted outside of the spinal motion segments approved by the FDA

The individual has osteopenia or osteoporosis (T-score <-1.0)

Above or below or in combination with a spinal fusion or other stabilizing type surgical procedure

A lumbar disc prosthesis not approved by the FDA or for an FDA approved indication

Degenerative disc disease above L4-L5

Presence of unmanaged significant behavioral health disorders (e.g., major depressive disorder, chronic pain syndrome, secondary gain, drug and alcohol abuse)

Age less than 18 or greater than 60

As an adjunct to the treatment of primary central or far-lateral disc herniation

There is evidence on imaging studies or ANY of the following:

Lytic or degenerative spondylolisthesis of Grade 2 or greater.

Lumbar bony spinal stenosis or Lumbar nerve root

compression

Pars interarticularis defect with either spondylolysis or isthmic spondylolisthesis

Scoliosis

Spine fracture

Active systemic infection, presence of tumor or active infection at the site or implantation.

Multi-level degenerative disc disease (2 or more levels) on a preoperative MRI and plain radiographs

Significant facet arthropathy at the operated level

Allergy or sensitivity to implant materials

Isolated radicular compression syndromes especially due to lumbar disc herniation

Involved vertebral endplate that is dimensionally smaller than the approximate dimensions of the implant in anterior/posterior width

Clinically compromised vertebral bodies at the affected level due to current or past trauma

Other:

Notes:

Device Requirements:

Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling

Single-level use only

Enclosures

Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:

Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment

Documentation of Nicotine Free Status

Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level

Behavioral health screening results

Certification and Signature

I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.

Surgeon Signature:

Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

HCSC (BCBS TX, IL, OK, NM & MT)	
Policy Name: Intervertebral Disc Prostheses	
Policy Number: 712.028	
Last Review: September 2021	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

Skeletally mature
 DDD at only one (1) level in the lumbar spine from L3-S1, confirmed by radiographic studies (CT, MRI, x-rays, etc)
 Radicular back/leg pain that has failed a minimum of six (6) months of conservative treatment
 No more than Grade 1 (0-25%) spondylolisthesis at the involved level
 Disc will be used for single-level reconstruction following lumbar discectomy within the L3-S1 region

Minimum Oswestry Disability Index (ODI) score equal to or > 40

The procedure is not comprised of any of the following deemed not medically necessary per your medical policy:

For all other indications, including but not limited to, multilevel use whether done simultaneously or at different times

Other:
Notes:
Device Requirements:
Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling
Single-level use only

Continued on next page

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Enclosures	
<i>Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:</i>	
Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment	
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level	
Certification and Signature	
<i>I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.</i>	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

HealthHelp Clinical Guidelines		
Policy Name: MSK Cervical and Lumbar Spine Surgery		
Last Review: January 1, 2021		
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:	
Surgeon NPI:		
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:	
Facility Address:		
Facility Type: Inpatient	Outpatient	ASC
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)		
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar		
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral		
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar		
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral		
Other		
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)		
0SR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open		
0SR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open		
Primary CPT® Procedure Code		
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar		

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

The individual is between the ages of 18 to 60
 Degenerative disc disease or significant discogenic back pain with disc degeneration is confirmed by documented patient history, physical examination, and key radiographic studies, with no more than Grade 1 (low level) spondylolisthesis demonstrated on x-ray at the operative level
 Imaging confirms absence of significant facet arthropathy at operative level
 At least six months of non-operative (conservative) treatment have failed to resolve symptoms
 Disc reconstruction with the device is performed at only one (single) level using an anterior retroperitoneal approach
 Implant is FDA approved for lumbar region and to be used in accordance with FDA labeling

Active systemic or local infection
 Osteoporosis or osteopenia (DEXA bone mineral density T-score less than or equal to - 1.0)
 Vertebral bodies compromised by disease or prior trauma
 Isolated lumbar radiculopathy (especially due to herniated disc)
 Chronic radiculopathy (unremitting especially leg symptoms lasting over 1 year)
 Spinal stenosis, or spinal deformity (scoliosis)
 Spondylolisthesis greater than Grade 1
 Disc degeneration requiring treatment at more than one level
 Severe facet arthrosis or joint degeneration
 Presence of free disc fragment
 Poorly managed psychiatric disorders

Does not have any of the following contraindications:

Disease above L1-2

Other:

Continued on next page

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL[®] Artificial Disc

Notes:	
Device Requirements:	
Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling Single-level use only	
Enclosures	
Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:	
Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment	
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level	
Certification and Signature	
I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

HealthPartners	
Policy Name: Artificial intervertebral disc replacement – Lumbar	
Last review: March 2022	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

Surgical implantation of an FDA-approved lumbar artificial intervertebral disc in a skeletally mature member is eligible for coverage when ALL of the following criteria are met:

- Documentation indicates chronic, unremitting discogenic low back pain and functional impairment due to single-level degenerative disc disease (DDD)
- Single-level disc degeneration has been confirmed on complex imaging studies (i.e. computerized tomography [CT] scan, magnetic resonance imaging [MRI])
- Imaging studies confirm either 3 mm or less of spondylolisthesis at the involved level or Grade 1 spondylolisthesis
- The implant will be inserted at an FDA-approved lumbar/sacral level specific to the implant being used
- Documentation indicates that the member has failed (failed is defined as unremitting low back pain and significant functional impairment refractory to conservative treatments) ≥ 6 months of structured, physician supervised conservative medical treatment which includes ALL of the following components:
 - Exercise, including core stabilization exercises
 - Non-steroidal and/or steroidal medication (unless contraindicated)
 - Physical therapy

The procedure is not comprised of any of the following deemed not medically necessary per your medical policy:

- The planned procedure includes the combined use of an artificial disc prosthesis and spinal fusion (i.e., hybrid surgery)
- The planned procedure includes simultaneous multilevel implantation
- The member has osteopenia or osteoporosis (T-score < -1.0)
- The member has a history of previous fusion surgery at any lumbar vertebral level

There is evidence on imaging studies of ANY of the following:

- Degenerative spondylolisthesis of Grade 2 or greater at the involved level
- Infection
- Multilevel degenerative disc disease
- Nerve root compression or spinal stenosis
- Pars interarticularis defect with either spondylolysis or isthmic spondylolisthesis
- Scoliosis
- Severe facet joint arthrosis
- Spinal fracture
- Tumor

The requested device is a non FDA-approved lumbar artificial intervertebral disc.

Continued on next page

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Other:	
Notes:	
Device Requirements:	
Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling	
Single-level use only	
Enclosures	
Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:	
Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment	
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level	
Certification and Signature	
I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Horizon BCBSNJ	
Policy Name: Artificial Intervertebral Disc: Lumbar Spine	
Last Review: June 6, 2022	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
0SR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
0SR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

Are skeletally mature;
Have degenerative disc disease (DDD) at one level in the lumbar spine at L4-L5 or L5-S1
Have degenerative disc disease (DDD) confirmed by member history and radiographic studies (i.e., MR imaging and provocative discography);
Have no more than Grade I spondylolisthesis
Have had no relief from pain after at least six months of conservative/non-operative treatment (e.g., physical therapy, facet joint injections, epidural steroids, ultrasound, manipulation, anti-inflammatory medications, analgesic medications, muscle relaxants, lumbosacral stabilization therapy)

Osteopenia,
Bony lumbar stenosis,
Allergy or sensitivity to implant materials (e.g., cobalt, chromium, titanium, polyethylene),
Isolated radicular compression syndromes, especially to disc herniation, or pars defect
Involved vertebral endplate that is dimensionally smaller than 31 mm in the Medial-lateral and/or 26 mm in the anterior/posterior directions
Clinically compromised vertebral bodies at the affected level due to current or past trauma

Does not have any of the following contraindications:

Active systemic infection or infection localized to the site of implantation,
Osteoporosis,

The procedure is not comprised of any of the following deemed not medically necessary per your medical policy:

Use at more than one level
Use at a spinal level(s) other than L4-L5 or L5-S1
Use in members with prior thoracic or lumbar spinal fusion

Other:

Continued on next page

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar
Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Notes:	
Device Requirements:	
Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling	
Single-level use only	
Enclosures	
Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:	
Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment	
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level	
Certification and Signature	
I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Humana	
Policy Name: Artificial Intervertebral Disc Replacement	
Policy Number: HUM-0442-021	
Last Review: March 24, 2022	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

DDD at ONE level, L3-S1, confirmed by a complex imaging study (e.g. CT, MRI, positive concordant discography)
 Failure of at least six months of conservative treatment within last 12 months (e.g. medications, physical therapy)
 Unrelenting low back pain and significant functional impairment (Significant functional impairment is defined as direct and measurable reduction in performance of an organ or body part)
 Psychological evaluation
 No more than Grade 1 spondylolisthesis at the involved level
 Documentation of Skeletal Maturity

Isolated lumbar radiculopathy, especially d/t herniated disc
 Myelopathy, Pars defect, or Scoliosis
 Preoperative remaining disc height < 3 mm
 Spondylolisthesis degenerative or isthmic > than grade 1 segmental instability
 Osteoporosis or osteopenia defined as DEXA bone mineral density T-score < or equal to -1.0
 Clinically compromised vertebral bodies at the affected level due to current or past disease (e.g. ankylosing spondylitis) or trauma (fracture)
 Involved vertebral endplate dimensionally smaller than 31 mm for activL

Does not have any of the following contraindications:

Abdominal pathology precluding an anterior retroperitoneal approach
 Active or chronic infection, systemic or infection localized to the operative site
 Allergy or sensitivity to the implant
 Bony lumbar stenosis
 Chronic radiculopathy over a period of at least a year
 Extruded disc material with sequestrum (i.e. free fragment)
 Facet joint degeneration

The procedure is not comprised of any of the following deemed not medically necessary per your medical policy:

Hybrid
 Multilevel lumbar disc replacement
 Prior surgery at the treated level, other than a prior microdisectomy with a proposed activL

Continued on next page

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar
Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Other:	
Notes:	
Device Requirements:	
Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling	
Enclosures	
Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:	
Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment and DEXA scan results	
Documentation of Skeletal Maturity	
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level	
Certification and Signature	
I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Medica	
Policy Name: Clinical Guidelines Spine Surgery: Lumbar Total Disc Arthroplasty	
Policy Number: III-SUR.34	
Last Review: January 18, 2021	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

Use of an FDA Approved Implant
 Skeletally mature
 Individual has documented symptomatic DDD, with or without radicular pain, resulting in unremitting low back pain
 Documentation of continued episodes of unremitting back pain demonstrating compromised ability to perform routine ADL's
 Imaging studies/radiological evidence documents a DDD lesion at a level correlating with impaired ADL's
 BMI is less than 40 at the time of prior auth request
 Documentation of insertion at one level
 Documentation of failure of a minimum of six (6) months of conservative medical management related to current episode/symptoms
 Documentation of an Oswestry Disability Index (ODI) score(S) at the conclusion of conservative treatment (e.g. physical therapy regimen, injection therapy) demonstrating one(1) of the following:
 Less than 30% improvement in (ODI) score between first and last conservative treatment session

Continued ODI score of greater than or equal to 30% at the conclusion of conservative treatment and thereafter
 If the individual has not had conservative treatment and ODI score of greater than or equal to 30% within one month prior to the date of prior authorization request
 For an individual unable to complete a minimum of six (6) month of conservative treatment, documentation of one (1) of the following is required
 ODI score of greater than or equal to 30% at the time conservative management is discontinued
 Inability to perform routine activities of daily living

Does not have any of the following contraindications:

Moderate to severe facet joint arthritis
 Localized or systemic infection
 Spinal tumor or other active malignancy
 Osteoporosis
 Spondylolisthesis

Continued on next page

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL[®] Artificial Disc

Other:	
Notes:	
Enclosures	
<i>Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:</i>	
Documentation of continued episodes of unremitting back pain demonstrating compromised ability to perform routine ADL's.	
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level	
Documentation of insertion at one level (L4-5 or L5-S1).	
Documentation of failure of a minimum of six (6) months of conservative medical management related to current episode/symptoms.	
Documentation of an Oswestry Disability Index (ODI) score(s) at the conclusion of conservative treatment	
Certification and Signature	
<i>I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.</i>	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Medical Mutual	
Policy Name: Artificial Intervertebral Disc Replacement: Cervical, Thoracic, and Lumbar	
Policy Number: #200813	
Last Review: November 23, 2021	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

18 or older and skeletally mature;
Single level between L3-S1
FDA-approved artificial disc (vertebra-specific);
Symptomatic lumbar DDD (discogenic back pain with degeneration of the disc confirmed by imaging [CT, MRI, or x-rays])
Spondylolisthesis at the involved level per the FDA-approved artificial disc specific limits
Candidate for lumbosacral spinal fusion
Failure of at least 6 months of conservative treatment, including ALL of the following: Physical therapy, anti-inflammatory medication; analgesic medication; avoidance of exacerbating activities

Does not have any of the following contraindications:

Allergy or sensitivity to implant materials
Active systemic infection or infection at the operative site
Osteopenia or osteoporosis (bone density T-score -2.5 or lower measured by dual energy x-ray absorptiometry [DEXA])
Moderate to advanced spondylosis characterized by bridging osteophytes, marked reduction or absence of motion, or

collapse of the intervertebral disc space of > 50% of its normal height
Marked lumbosacral instability on imaging (e.g., signs of subluxation >3.5 mm or angulation of the disc space >11 degrees greater than adjacent segments)
Significant kyphotic deformity, significant reversal of lordosis, or significant spondylolisthesis
Significant lumbosacral anatomical deformity or compromised vertebral bodies at the index level due to systemic disease, previous surgery, or trauma
Severe facet joint arthropathy
Symptoms necessitating surgical treatment at > 1 lumbosacral level
Congenital stenosis
Previous surgery at the involved level
Spinal metastases
Current medical condition requires long-term use of medications affecting bone quality and fusion rates (e.g., systemic corticosteroids)
Nerve root compression
Stenosis

Continued on next page

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Other:	
Notes:	
Device Requirements:	
Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling	
Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment	
Radiographs with evidence of DDD with one confirmed symptomatic level	
Certification and Signature	
I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Moda Health	
Policy Name: Intervertebral Disc Prosthesis	
Last Review: June 23, 2021	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
0SR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
0SR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

FDA-approved lumbar prosthetic intervertebral discs will be covered to plan limitations when ALL of the following criteria are met:

The patient is skeletally mature
 Diagnosis of degenerative disc disease at only one level confirmed by patient history and advanced imaging studies (CT scan or MRI) within the last 6 months
 Disc replacement is planned for one level
 No more than Grade I spondylolisthesis at the involved level
 Patient suffers from low back pain that has not responded to at least 6 months of conservative treatment including all of the following:

NSAIDs, analgesics, steroids

Physical therapy

Epidural steroid injections/selective nerve root blocks

Patient is a candidate for spine surgery (such as a fusion)

No prior lumbar spinal fusion

Patient meets **1 or more** of the following:

Patient is a non-smoker

Patient is a documented smoker and has abstained from tobacco for at least 6 weeks prior to surgery as evidence by lab results documenting (cotinine level) nicotine-free status

Does not have any of the following contraindications:

Previous lumbar fusion

Simultaneous multilevel implantations is planned

Osteoporosis or osteopenia

Imaging studies confirm any of the following conditions:

Infection (active systemic or localized to the site of implantation)

Spinal tumor

Multiple levels of degenerative disc disease

Degenerative spondylolisthesis of Grade 2 or greater

Pars interarticularis defect with either spondylolysis or isthmic spondylolisthesis

Severe facet joint arthrosis

Nerve root compression or spinal stenosis

Scoliosis

Spinal fracture

History of chronic steroid use

Pregnancy

Morbid obesity

Known allergy or sensitivity to implant materials (cobalt, chromium, molybdenum, polyethylene, titanium)

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Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL[®] Artificial Disc

Other:	
Notes:	
Device Requirements:	
Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling (including any labeling requirements regarding degree of spondylolisthesis)	
Single-level use only	
Enclosures	
Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:	
Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment	
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level	
Tobacco cessation records	
Certification and Signature	
I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Molina Healthcare	
Policy Name: Artificial Intervertebral Disc Replacement (ADR) Surgery	
Policy Number: MCP-011	
Last Review: February 9, 2022	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

Age 18-60 years old
 Device is FDA approved for lumbar disc replacement
 Diagnosis of single level degenerative lumbar disc disease with intractable radiculopathy and/or myelopathy confirmed with imaging studies
 Symptoms of unremitting back and/or leg pain, resulting in disability and/or neurological deficit refractory to all of the following: Six months or more of standard medical management unless contraindicated:

Activity restrictions and/or;
 Exercise; **and**
 Analgesics; **and**
 Physical therapy

The planned implant will be used in the reconstruction of a lumbar disc in only one vertebral level
 Candidate for single-level lumbar decompression and interbody fusion

Does not have any of the following contraindications:

Active systemic infection or infection localized to the site of implantation
 Allergy or sensitivity to implant materials
 Bony lumbar stenosis
 Isolated radicular compression syndromes, especially due to disc herniation
 Osteopenia
 Osteoporosis
 Pars defect

Continued on next page

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Other:	
Notes:	
Device Requirements:	
Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling (including any labeling requirements regarding degree of spondylolisthesis)	
Single-level use only	
Enclosures	
Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:	
Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment	
Certification and Signature	
I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

NIA Magellan Clinical Guidelines		
Policy Name: MSK and Surgery		
Last Review: June 2021		
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:	
Surgeon NPI:		
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:	
Facility Address:		
Facility Type: Inpatient	Outpatient	ASC
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)		
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar		
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral		
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar		
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral		
Other		
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)		
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open		
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open		
Primary CPT® Procedure Code		
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar		

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

The individual is between the ages of 18 to 60
 Degenerative disc disease or significant discogenic back pain with disc degeneration is confirmed by documented patient history, physical examination, and key radiographic studies, with no more than Grade 1 (low level) spondylolisthesis demonstrated on x-ray at the operative level(s)
 Imaging confirms absence of significant facet arthropathy at operative level(s)
 At least six months of non-operative (conservative) treatment have failed to resolve symptoms
 Disc reconstruction with the device is performed at one or two levels as indicated using an anterior retroperitoneal approach
 Implant is FDA approved for lumbar region and to be used in accordance with FDA labeling

Active systemic or local infection
 Osteoporosis or osteopenia (DEXA bone mineral density T-score less than or equal to - 1.0)
 Vertebral bodies compromised by disease or prior trauma
 Allergy or sensitivity to implant materials
 Isolated lumbar radiculopathy (especially due to herniated disc)
 Chronic radiculopathy (unremitting especially leg symptoms lasting over 1 year)
 Spinal stenosis, or spinal deformity (scoliosis)
 Spondylolisthesis greater than Grade 1
 Disc degeneration requiring treatment at more than two levels
 Severe facet arthrosis or joint degeneration
 Presence of free disc fragment
 Poorly managed psychiatric disorders

Does not have any of the following contraindications:

Disease above L3-4

Continued on next page

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar
Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Other:	
Notes:	
Device Requirements:	
Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling (including any labeling requirements regarding degree of spondylolisthesis)	
Single-level use only	
Enclosures	
Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:	
Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment	
Certification and Signature	
I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Paramount	
Policy Name: Artificial Intervertebral Disc Replacement: HMO, PPO, Individual Marketplace & Elite	
Policy Number: PG-0027	
Last Review: May 2018	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

Skeletally mature
Unremitting low back pain and significant functional impairment is refractory to at least six consecutive months of structured, physician supervised conservative medical management, which includes

ALL of the following components:

Exercise, including core stabilization exercises
Nonsteroidal and/or steroidal medication (unless contraindicated)
Physical therapy, including passive and active treatment modalities

Activity/lifestyle modifications

Single-level disc degeneration has been confirmed on complex imaging studies (i.e. CT, MRI)
The implant will be inserted at an FDA approved lumbar/sacral level specific to the implant being used
Elite members must be 60 years of age or younger

The procedure is not comprised of any of the following deemed not medically necessary per your medical policy

Lumbar artificial disc at more than one level

Other:
Notes:

Continued on next page

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar
Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Enclosures	
Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:	
Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment	
Certification and Signature	
I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Preferred One	
Policy Name: Intervertebral Disc Prosthesis	
Policy Number: MC/F022	
Last Review: May 27, 2022	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

The member is skeletally mature.
The member has low back pain which has failed at least 6 months of conservative treatment within 1 year prior to the scheduled surgery date. The conservative treatment must have included physical therapy.
Findings on imaging show either 3mm or less of spondylolisthesis or no more than Grade I spondylolisthesis localized to the disc space being treated
Recent imaging has reasonably excluded alternate causes of pain.

Does not have any of the following contraindications:

Active systemic infection or infection at the operating site
Allergy or sensitivity to any of the implant materials
Any significant lumbar spine deformity at the involved level due to current or past trauma or disease (eg, Ankylosing spondylitis, rheumatoid arthritis); or
Marked lumbar instability on radiographs (eg, radiographic signs of subluxation greater than 3.5mm or angulation of

the disc space more than 11 degrees greater than adjacent segments).
Osteopenia or osteoporosis
Severe lumbar facet joint arthropathy
Pars defect/spondylolysis
Stenosis
Leg pain caused by single nerve root compression (aka pinched nerve) [NOTE: Secondary leg pain may be present if it is not isolated]
Nerve root damage (chronic radiculopathy, ie, greater than 1 year), disc fragment that has separated and moved from the disc space, or spinal deformity such as scoliosis
Isolated radicular compression syndromes, especially due to disc herniation
Involved vertebral endplate dimensionally smaller than 34.5 mm in the medial-lateral and/or 27mm in the anterior-posterior directions

The following is considered investigative.

Intervertebral lumbar disc prosthesis, multi-level.

Continued on next page

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL[®] Artificial Disc

Other:	
Notes:	
Device Requirements:	
Must be used per FDA labeling (including any labeling requirements regarding degree of spondylolisthesis)	
Enclosures	
<i>Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:</i>	
Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment	
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level	
Certification and Signature	
<i>I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.</i>	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Providence Health Plan	
Policy Name: Back-Artificial Intervertebral Discs	
Last Review: October 2021	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

Patient is skeletally mature (i.e. fully developed growth plates)
 The lumbar artificial intervertebral disc prosthesis is FDA-approved and will be implanted at the approved level specific to the device
 Replacement of degenerated lumbar disc is limited to one levels
 Persistent, debilitating, radicular pain and either of the following criteria are met:
 Documented moderate to severe interference of radicular pain with age appropriate activities of daily living, or
 Severe disability as measured by the Oswestry Disability Index
 Both of the following criteria are met:
 Physical and neurological abnormalities and symptoms, documented on a physical exam, that correlate with spinal cord or nerve root compression at the affected level (e.g., muscular weakness, sensory loss, hyperreflexia, reflex changes, cauda

equina syndrome, and
 Imaging studies (e.g. CT or MRI) show compression of the spinal cord or nerve root at the affected level
 Symptoms have failed to improve after 3 months of conservative treatment as part of pre-operative surgery planning, including but not limited to physical therapy (unless there is intolerable radicular pain, significant motor dysfunction, or progressive neurologic changes)
 All other reasonable sources of radicular pain and/or neurological changes have been ruled out

Does not have any of the following contraindications:

Treatment at more than one lumbar level
 Replacement of a lumbar artificial disc for any reason

Other:

Notes:

Continued on next page

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Device Requirements:	
Must be used per FDA labeling (including any labeling requirements regarding degree of spondylolisthesis)	
Enclosures	
<i>Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:</i>	
Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment	
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level	
Certification and Signature	
<i>I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.</i>	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

QualChoice	
Policy Name: Intervertebral Disc Prosthesis	
Policy Number: BI 182.00	
Last Review: July 1, 2020	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

Skeletally mature, **and**
 With DDD at one level from L3-S1 confirmed radiologically, **and**
 Are symptomatic with radicular pain, **and**
 Who have failed at least six months of conservative management
 NSAIDS, analgesics, steroids
 Physical therapy

Epidural steroid injection/selective nerve root block
 To optimize clinical outcomes for this major elective procedure, it is also required:
 Patient is a non-smoker, OR
 Patient is a documented smoker and has abstained for at least 6 weeks prior to surgery as evidenced by lab results documenting nicotine-free status (cotinine level)

Other:
Notes:

Continued on next page

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Enclosures	
<i>Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:</i>	
Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment and DEXA scan results	
Tobacco cessation records if applicable	
Certification and Signature	
<i>I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.</i>	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

TRICARE	
Policy Name: Artificial Intervertebral Disc	
Last Review: February 26, 2020	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
0SR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
0SR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

Per the TRICARE Policy Manual 6010.60-M, Chapter 4, Section 6.1: Number 4.13:
Single-level, lumbar TDR (CPT procedure code 22857) using an FDA approved lumbar artificial intervertebral disc for the

treatment of single-level, lumbar DDD in patients who have failed conservative treatment is covered if the disc is used in accordance with its FDA labeled indications.

Other:
Notes:
Device Requirements:
Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling (including any labeling requirements regarding degree of spondylolisthesis)
Single-level use only
Enclosures
Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:
Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment
Documented diagnosis and symptoms of radiculopathy or myelopathy including physical limitations related to the disease
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level

Continued on next page

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar
Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Certification and Signature	
<i>I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.</i>	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

TurningPoint Healthcare Solutions	
Policy Name: Artificial Intervertebral Disc	
Last Review: December 31, 2021	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

FDA approved lumbar artificial intervertebral prosthesis
 Radiographic evidence of moderate to severe single level degeneration at L4-5 or L5-S1 with Modic changes compared to other normal or mildly degenerated levels
 Symptoms have been present for at least one year and interfere with daily activities
 Chronic pain and functional impairment has not been responsive to at least 6 months of documented conservative therapy, including but not limited to:
 Physical therapy/rehabilitation program
 Pain management
 Absence of significant psychiatric disorders
 Primary complaint of axial pain, with or without lower extremity pain
 Individual is skeletally mature and between the ages of 18 and 60
 No significant facet joint arthropathy at level planned for surgery

Does not have any of the following contraindications:

Adjacent level degenerative disease at a prior fusion or other stabilizing procedure
 Active infection at the surgical site or systemic infection

Presence of a neoplasm
 Known hypersensitivity to implant materials (cobalt, chromium, molybdenum, polyethylene, titanium)
 Age < 18 or >60
 Radiographic evidence of facet joint degeneration or disease
 Radiographic evidence of multi-level degeneration
 Primary central or far-lateral disc herniation
 Disc replacement will be performed concurrently with lumbar fusion of another level
 Bony lumbar spinal stenosis
 Osteoporosis or osteopenia (DEXA bone density T-score of less than -1.0)
 Isolated radicular compression syndromes (e.g. disc herniation)
 Pars defect
 Vertebral bodies at the affected level are compromised due to traumatic injury
 Degenerative or lytic spondylolisthesis greater than Grade 1
 Presence of a known significant psychiatric disorder
 BMI greater than 40

Continued on next page

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL[®] Artificial Disc

Other:	
Notes:	
Device Requirements:	
Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling (including any labeling requirements regarding degree of spondylolisthesis)	
Single-level use only	
Enclosures	
Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:	
Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment	
Documented diagnosis and symptoms of radiculopathy or myelopathy including physical limitations related to the disease	
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level	
Certification and Signature	
I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

United HealthCare	
Policy Name: Total Artificial Disc Replacement for the Spine	
Policy Number: 2022T0437EE	
Last Review: June 1, 2022	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
Other	
Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
OSR20JZ Replacement of lumbar vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open	
Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 18 to 60 years old | Lumbosacral spinal fracture |
| Advanced degenerative disc disease in one vertebral level between L3 and S1 with either moderate to severe degenerative disease or Modic changes | Scoliosis of the lumbosacral spine |
| Symptoms must correlate with imaging findings | Active systemic infection or infection localized to site |
| No more than Grade 1 Spondylolisthesis at the involved level or any listhesis at two or more lumbar segments | Tumor in the peritoneum, retroperitoneum or site of implantation |
| Presence of symptoms for at least 6 months | Osteoporosis or osteopenia as defined by recent (within one year) DEXA scan |
| Failed at least 6 months of conservative treatment immediately prior to implantation of artificial disc. (including physical therapy, anti-inflammatory medications, analgesics, muscle relaxants and epidural steroid injections) | Previous lumbar spine surgery where the previous surgery destabilized the spine or where the spine at the level of the previous surgery is an alternate source of pain |
| Favorable face to face psychological evaluation | Vascular, urological, or other peritoneal or retroperitoneal pathology that preclude safe and adequate anterior spine exposure |

Does not have any of the following contraindications:

- Isolated radicular compression syndromes especially due to disc herniation
- Spinal stenosis or radiculopathy
- Moderate or severe facet arthropathy or pars defect at the operative level demonstrated by MRI scan, CT or plain radiograph

The procedure is not comprised of any of the following deemed not medically necessary per your medical policy:

- More than one spinal level
- Prior history of lumbar fusion or when combined with a lumbar fusion at any level
- Treating any other indications not listed above

Continued on next page

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Other:	
Notes:	
Device Requirements:	
Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling	
Single-level use only	
Enclosures	
Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:	
Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment and DEXA scan results	
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level	
Behavioral health screening results	
Certification and Signature	
I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Wellmark BCBS	
Policy Name: Artificial Intervertebral Disc	
Policy Number: 07.01.03	
Last Review: March 2022	
Patient Name:	Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:	
Facility Name:	Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:	
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC	
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)	
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar	
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral	
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar	
M51.27 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral	
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Primary ICD-10-PCS Procedure Code (if Inpatient) (Please Check One)	
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Primary CPT® Procedure Code	
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar	

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

Skeletally mature
Symptomatic single level lumbar disc disease at L3-S1
Presence of symptoms for at least 6 months or greater and that are not responsive to multi-modal non-operative treatment over that period that should include a physical therapy/rehabilitation program but may also include (but not limited to) pain management, injections, cognitive behavior therapy, and active exercise programs
Any underlying psychiatric disorder, such as depression, should be diagnosed and the management optimized prior to surgical intervention
Primary complaint of chronic, unremitting axial pain, with a possible secondary complaint of lower extremity pain
Use of an FDA approved device for the specific level

Does not have any of the following contraindications:

Any case that does not fulfill all of the above criteria
Presence of symptomatic degenerative disc disease at more than one level
Presence of spinal instability with spondylolisthesis greater than Grade I
Chronic radiculopathy (unremitting pain with predominance of leg pain symptoms greater than back pain symptoms extending over a period of at least one year)
Osteopenia as evidenced by a DEXA bone mineral density T-score less than or equal to -1.0
Poorly managed psychiatric disorder
Significant facet arthropathy at the index level
Age greater than 60 years or less than 18 years
Presence of infection or tumor

Other:

Continued on next page

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Notes:	
Device Requirements:	
Must be FDA approved and used per FDA labeling	
Single-level use only	
Enclosures	
Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:	
Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment and DEXA scan results	
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level	
Behavioral health screening results	
Certification and Signature	
I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Certificate of Medical Necessity		
Patient Name:		Surgeon Name:
Surgeon NPI:		
Facility Name:		Facility Tax ID:
Facility Address:		
Facility Type: Inpatient Outpatient ASC		
Primary ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code (Please Check One)		
M51.36 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbar		
M51.37 Other intervertebral degeneration, lumbosacral		
M51.26 Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar		
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OSR40JZ Replacement of lumbosacral vertebral disc with synthetic substitute, open		
Primary CPT® Procedure Code		
22857 Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach including discectomy to prepare interspace, single interspace, lumbar		

Surgeon Certification

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

I certify that this patient meets the criteria for medical necessity as outlined in your medical policy based on the following:

Is skeletally mature (18-60)

Needs single-level disc replacement with activL (FDA approved artificial disc) as confirmed by imaging, at:

L4-L5 or L5-S1

Has failed at least six (6) months of nonoperative, physician-supervised, conservative treatment

Has no more than Grade 1 spondylolisthesis

May have some radiologic evidence of degeneration at adjacent levels but without symptoms/pain

Has passed a psychological screening for behavioral health disorders

Has clinically significant functional impairment (ODI) and pain (VAS)

Does not have any of the following contraindications:

Isolated radiculopathy, especially due to herniated disc

Chronic radiculopathy (unrelenting pain with predominance of leg pain symptoms greater than back pain symptoms extending over a period of at least a year)

Spinal stenosis

Active systemic infection or localized infection near the surgical site

Osteoporosis or osteopenia determined by DEXA scan

Allergy or sensitivity to the implant materials

Extruded disc material with sequestrum

Myelopathy

Spinal deformity, such as scoliosis

Clinically compromised vertebral bodies at the affected level due to trauma or disease


Facet ankylosis or facet joint degeneration

Preoperative remaining disc height < 3 mm

Continued on next page

Certificate of Medical Necessity for Lumbar Total Disc Replacement with the activL® Artificial Disc

Other:	
Notes:	
Enclosures	
Enclosed is the following documentation as required by your policy:	
Medical records with evidence of 6+ months of failed conservative treatment and DEXA scan results	
My clinical notes	
Radiographs with evidence of degenerative disc disease with one confirmed symptomatic level	
Behavioral health screening results	
Certification and Signature	
I certify that I am the surgeon identified on this certificate and that I have completed this form based on my thorough review of the patient's case and on my examination of this patient.	
Surgeon Signature:	Date:



Through collaborative
excellence we will improve the
quality of a patient's life and
meet the needs of the changing
healthcare environment.

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DOC1645 Rev B 07/22