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Organization : Berks Plastic Surgery
Category : Health Care Professional or Association

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Issue Areas/Comments

GENERAL

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We are a plastic surgery practice and have Medicare patients who would greatly benefit from predetermination of procedures as plastic surgery can be considered cosmetic as well as medical. It would greatly assist our patients to know if a surgery will be covered prior to having it performed. These patients are usually on a fixed income and may not be able to afford the surgery if Medicare deems it cosmetic or non-covered after the surgery is performed. They will hesitate to have the surgery performed when it is by the physician's viewpoint, medically necessary.

I believe that predetermination would be a great benefit for our Medicare patients and hope that the new prior determination system can be implemented. This would be a great benefit to doctors as well as patients.

I currently have a patient who suffers from ambulatory dysfunction, bilateral lower extremity swelling and Dr. Ellenberger would like to have patient have compression therapy to treat the swelling and then have surgery - liposuction of the lower extremities. It would be of great benefit to patient if we could find out coverage information prior to the surgery being performed. Patient's name is Sylvia Kellenberger, Medicare ID # 176-28-9734A. You can respond to www.mary@berksplasticsurgery.com Thank you