

A Guide to Accessing Gender Affirming Surgery

- 1. Receive an evaluation from 2 medical providers (Primary Care, Mental Health).**
 - This will assess readiness to undergo gender affirming procedures.
 - 2 letters in support of gender affirming procedure should be requested at this time.

- 2. Obtain 2 letters in support of requested procedure.**
 - Letters must be specific to requested procedure and cannot be combined with other requests.
 - See Letter of Support guidance sheet.

- 3. Set-up consultation/s for GAS.**
 - Members can self-refer to a surgeon.
 - Listing of in-network providers can be requested from Amida Care Member Services or the Gender Identity Support Team (GIST), or found on the Amida Care website.

- 4. Prepare for your consultation.**
 - Prepare questions and bring a friend if desired.
 - See resource from Callen Lorde (on the Amida Care website).

- 5. Bring your letters of support to your consultation.**
 - Provide copies of your letters to the surgeon.
 - Always keep the originals for yourself.

- 6. Obtain Prior Authorization.**
 - After your consultation and before surgery, the provider's office will submit a request for prior authorization to Amida Care.
 - This request will include clinical notes and supporting letters for Amida Care to review. Please note, all support letters must be sent by the surgeon's office.

For additional information, please see Amida Care Clinical Guidelines and Coverage Criteria for the Treatment of Gender Incongruence or contact the Gender Identity Support Team (GIST) at 1-866-441-0009 option 1; or email GIST@amidacareny.org



7. Prior Authorization:

- Amida Care receives the request for prior authorization.
- Amida Care will make a determination on your request within 3 business days once all required documentation is received and meets guidelines. This determination may be approved, denied, or additional information might be requested.
- If your letters do not meet criteria, Amida Care will notify your provider's office.
- Amida Care will contact you once a determination (approval, partial approval, or denial) has been made.

8. Aftercare:

- Please let your surgeon or discharge planner know if you need home care nursing services or short-term inpatient rehab following surgery. Requests for aftercare must be submitted by the surgeon.

9. Transportation:

- Medicaid will pay for your transportation home from surgery.
- Medicaid will pay for your post op appointment transportation if medically necessary.
- Medicaid will not pay for your transportation the day of the surgery.
- There is additional guidance on transportation available on the Amida Care website.

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