### Disclaimer

State and federal law, as well as contract language, including definitions and specific inclusions/exclusions, take precedence over clinical policy and must be considered first in determining eligibility for coverage. Coverage may also differ for our Medicare and/or Medicaid members based on any applicable Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) coverage statements including National Coverage Determinations (NCD), Local Medical Review Policies (LMRP), and/or Local Coverage Determinations. See the CMS website at [http://www.cms.hhs.gov/](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/). The member’s health plan benefits, in effect on the date services are rendered, must be used. Clinical policy is not intended to preempt the judgment of the reviewing Medical Director or dictate to providers how to practice medicine. Providers are expected to exercise their medical judgment in rendering the most appropriate care. Identification of selected brand names of devices, tests, and procedures in a Medical Coverage Policy are for reference only and is not an endorsement of any one device, test or procedure over another. Clinical technology is constantly evolving, and we reserve the right to review and update this policy periodically. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any shape or form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, or otherwise, without permission from Humana Inc.

### Description

Artificial intervertebral disc replacement was designed as an alternative to cervical and lumbar spinal fusion surgery for those patients suffering from back or neck pain due to degenerative disc disease (DDD). The artificial disc was designed to restore normal disc height, to preserve the spinal flexibility as well as decrease degeneration of adjacent discs, which can occur as a result of DDD.

Examples of Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved artificial discs for the lumbar spine include, but may not be limited to, the Charité® Artificial Disc and the ProDisc-L® Total Disc Replacement. Those FDA approved for the cervical spine include, but may not be limited to, the Prestige Cervical Disc, the ProDisc™-C Total Disc Replacement, and the BRYAN® Cervical Disc.
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**Coverage Determination**

Humana members may **NOT** be eligible under the Plan for artificial intervertebral disc replacement for the cervical or lumbar spine. This technology is considered experimental/investigational as it is not identified as widely used and generally accepted for the proposed use as reported in nationally recognized peer-reviewed medical literature published in the English language.

**Background**

You can learn more about degenerative disc disease (DDD) from the following sites:


**Medical Alternatives**

Alternatives to artificial intervertebral disc replacement for the cervical or lumbar spine include, but may not be limited to, the following:

- Acupuncture (Please refer to the Acupuncture Medical Coverage Policy)
- Bracing (Please refer to the Orthotics Medical Coverage Policy)
- Cervical or lumbar fusion (Please refer to the Spinal Fusion Surgery Medical Coverage Policy)
- Exercise
- Physical therapy (Please refer to the Physical Therapy (PT) and Occupational Therapy (OT) Medical Coverage Policy)
- Prescription drug therapy may be appropriate for this condition
- Spinal Decompression Surgery (Please refer to the Spinal Decompression Surgery Medical Coverage Policy)

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Provider Claims Codes

All provider claims codes surrounding this topic may not be included in the following table:

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<td>Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach, including discectomy with end plate preparation (includes osteophytectomy for nerve root or spinal cord decompression and micro dissection), single interspace, cervical</td>
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<td>22862</td>
<td>Revision including replacement of total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach, single interspace; lumbar</td>
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<td>22864</td>
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Artificial Intervertebral Disc Replacement
Effective Date: 01/26/2012
Revision Date: 01/26/2012
Review Date: 01/26/2012
Policy Number: CLPD-0442-005

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<td>84.67</td>
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Revision or replacement of artificial spinal disc prosthesis, lumbosacral

Revision or replacement of artificial spinal prosthesis, not otherwise specified

Medical Terms

**Acupuncture** - a Chinese medical practice or procedure that treats illness or provides local anesthesia by the insertion of needles at specified sites of the body.

**Adjacent** - Next to or adjoining.

**Cervical** - Relating to or associated with the neck.

**Compression** - Increasing physical pressure on a vital structure.

**Degeneration** - Gradual deterioration of specific tissues, cells, or organs with corresponding impairment or loss of function, caused by injury, disease or aging.

**Deterioration** - To diminish or impair in quality, character or value.

**Flexibility** - To be capable of being bent repeatedly without injury or damage.

**Lumbar** - Of, near, or situated in the part of the back and sides between the lowest ribs and the pelvis.

**Spinal Fusion** - Procedure that involves the joining together of two or more vertebrae in the spine using either bone grafts or metal rods.

References


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ECRI Institute. Health Technology Forecast. Artificial intervertebral disc replacement
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Artificial Intervertebral Disc Replacement

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