

The following information needs to be provided to Molina Healthcare either via fax by completing the Service Request Form (for prior authorization), or verbally:

- Exam findings that indicate and describe pain of a spinal origin; *and*
- Results of imaging (MRI, CT, PET, etc.); *and*
- Conservative care for at least three months, including
 - Anti-inflammatory medications (dosage, frequency, and duration); *and*
 - Physical therapy including duration, frequency, and effect; *and*
 - Activity modification

After at least 12 weeks of conservative treatment, an injection may be considered if there appears to be a delay in recovery. Injections will not be approved for a member who has not had conservative treatment including physical therapy.

Guideline changes are outlined below in detail by procedure.

- For ESI or facet/MBB injections, the member must report an 80 percent improvement from the last injection (using a Visual Analog Scale or equivalent) before a subsequent injection is approved.
- For RFA, at least a 50 percent improvement in pain symptoms for at least 10 weeks is required for approving a subsequent procedure.