

Meeting with NGS

8/22/2024 430pm

Attendees:

On behalf of NYSIPP as well as NY Spine and Wellness Center

Robert L .Tiso, MD : President, NYSIPP / New York Spine and Wellness Center, Syracuse

Hemant Kalia, MD MPH FIPP : Chair, NY Advocacy and Policy Consortium/Secretary, NYSIPP/
Councilor, 7th District, MSSNY /President, MCMS (Monroe County Medical Society)

Karina Gritsenko, MD : Vice President, NYSIPP

Erin Germinio, NYSWC Billing Manager

Rebecca Salmon , RN: NYSWC Practice Manager

On behalf of NGS:

Marc Duerden, MD: Medical Director NGS/ Indiana Medical Examinations

Olatokunbo Awodele, MD MPH : Contractor Medical Director/ NGS an Elevance Health Company

Gina Mullen, MD : Medical Director Elevance Health

Attachments sent prior to meeting:

- Doc Matter on 5/1 and then additional comment added 7/18
- NYSIPP letter to NGS
- Timeline for PNS CPT code w/ AMA

Agenda :

After reviewing the documents sent prior to this meeting , what are NGS thoughts on Curonix PNS , is it consider non integrated or integrated?

Dr Duerden apologized for not receiving/reading the documents. R. Salmon forwarded emails with document attachments.

Dr Kalia brought Dr Duerden up to speed on the reason for this meeting.

He also advised him that two societies will be coming out with guidelines: ASPN and ASIPP

Dr Tiso reviewed the confusion surrounding the coding of the Curonix PNS - this included the back ground on Curonix, the AMA timeline, and the opinions of some MDs on Doc Matter. He expressed that his intention with both the 3/2024 meeting and this meeting was to get insight from NGS as to how to code and bill this correctly.

AMA specifically states that code 64590 (implantation of non-integrated PNS) applies to a 2 COMPONENT SYSTEM with EITHER AN IPG OR RECEIVER. The Curonix system uses an implanted receiver and is in fact 2 components. Strict interpretation of this rule would dictate that the Curonix system is non-integrated. Some passionately disagree. The question was posed: Would physicians billing it this way be subjected to clawbacks if future direction dictates otherwise? Answer: Since we are meeting with them regularly on this subject and are presenting a "reasonable argument," then clawbacks would be "highly unlikely."

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Dr Duerden commended both NYSWC, Dr Kalia, and NYSIPP for collaborating and being proactive. He observed 2 things being done right thus far: keeping the lines of communication open with NGS by having these meetings and sharing the research /documents demonstrating how you concluded it should be billed.

He recommends that we continue discussions with NGS. We plan on complying. He asked that the societies guidelines be sent when they are available with meeting to follow.