

LCD L36204: Spinal Cord Stimulator Pre-Authorization Cases

Training Dataset - 10 Synthetic Medical Records

Generated: October 2024

Summary Statistics

5

Approved

3

Denied

2

Need More Info

File Name	Patient Name	Age/Sex	Primary Diagnosis	Complexity	Decision	Key Decision Factors
L36204_001	Thompson, Margaret L.	63 / F	Failed Back Surgery Syndrome with Radiculopathy	Moderate	APPROVED	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Covered diagnosis (FBSS)✓ 5+ years chronic pain✓ Multiple failed conservative treatments✓ Psychological clearance obtained✓ Multidisciplinary evaluation complete✓ No substance abuse✓ Late resort - revision surgery failed
L36204_002	Rodriguez, Carlos M.	58 / M	Complex Regional Pain Syndrome (CRPS) Type I - Right Lower Extremity	Simple	APPROVED	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Covered diagnosis (CRPS Type I)✓ Budapest criteria documented✓ 3+ years chronic pain✓ Failed medications, PT, sympathetic blocks✓ Psychological clearance obtained✓ Multidisciplinary team evaluation

File Name	Patient Name	Age/Sex	Primary Diagnosis	Complexity	Decision	Key Decision Factors
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Clear documentation, straightforward case
L36204_003	Washington, Debra A.	67 / F	Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy - Bilateral Lower Extremities	Moderate	APPROVED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Covered diagnosis (peripheral neuropathy) ✓ 4+ years severe neuropathic pain ✓ Diabetes well-controlled (A1C 6.9%) ✓ Failed multiple medication trials ✓ Psychological evaluation - cleared ✓ PT and other modalities tried ✓ Significant functional impairment
L36204_004	Patterson, James R.	71 / M	Failed Back Surgery Syndrome - Multiple Prior Surgeries	Complex	APPROVED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Covered diagnosis (FBSS) ✓ 8+ years chronic pain ✓ 4 prior spinal surgeries all failed ✓ Extensive conservative treatment history ✓ Psychological clearance with chronic pain adaptation ✓ Multidisciplinary evaluation ✓ No further surgical options - truly late resort ✓ Complex anatomy documented
L36204_005	Chen, Linda K.	55 / F	Failed Back Surgery Syndrome with Arachnoiditis	Edge Case	APPROVED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Covered diagnosis (FBSS with arachnoiditis) ✓ 3+ years chronic pain ✓ Conservative treatments exhausted ✓ Psychological clearance obtained ✓ Mild depression well-controlled on medication ✓ Edge factor: History of anxiety but treated ✓ Strong family support documented

File Name	Patient Name	Age/Sex	Primary Diagnosis	Complexity	Decision	Key Decision Factors
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Realistic expectations confirmed
L36204_006	Miller, Robert J.	62 / M	Failed Back Surgery Syndrome	Moderate	DENIED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Covered diagnosis (FBSS) ✓ 4+ years chronic pain ✓ Failed conservative treatments ✗ NO psychological evaluation completed ✗ Psych clearance required per LCD L36204 ✓ Physical medicine documentation present Denial Reason: Missing required psychological screening and clearance
L36204_007	Anderson, Sarah T.	48 / F	Lumbar Radiculopathy Post-Surgery	Simple	DENIED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Post-surgical radiculopathy documented ✗ Only 6 months of conservative treatment ✗ Limited medication trials (only 3 classes) ✗ PT only 8 sessions - inadequate trial ✓ Psychological clearance obtained ✗ No interventional procedures attempted Denial Reason: Insufficient duration and breadth of conservative treatment. SCS is late resort - more options available
L36204_008	Williams, Marcus D.	59 / M	Complex Regional Pain Syndrome Type I	Moderate	DENIED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Covered diagnosis (CRPS Type I) ✓ 3+ years chronic pain ✓ Failed conservative treatments

File Name	Patient Name	Age/Sex	Primary Diagnosis	Complexity	Decision	Key Decision Factors
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • X Positive UDS for cocaine (09/2024) • X Active substance abuse documented • X Missed 2 pain management appointments • X Psychological eval notes substance use concerns • Denial Reason: Active substance abuse - LCD L36204 requires no active substance abuse issues
L36204_009	Johnson, Patricia L.	64 / F	Failed Back Surgery Syndrome (Suspected)	Moderate	NEED MORE INFO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ✓ History suggests FBSS • ✓ 2+ years pain documented • ✓ Some conservative treatments tried • ? Most recent MRI over 18 months old • ? No current EMG/NCS study • ? Psychological evaluation scheduled but not completed • ? Incomplete medication trial documentation • Need: Updated imaging, EMG, completed psych eval, complete medication history
L36204_010	Taylor, Michael F.	66 / M	Chronic Lower Back Pain - Etiology Unclear	Complex	NEED MORE INFO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ? Diagnosis unclear - conflicting documentation • ✓ 3+ years pain documented • ✓ Conservative treatments tried • ? MRI shows multilevel DDD but no clear surgical history • ? Records mention prior surgery but no operative reports • ? Unclear if pain is neuropathic vs nociceptive

File Name	Patient Name	Age/Sex	Primary Diagnosis	Complexity	Decision	Key Decision Factors
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Psychological clearance obtained Need: Clarify surgical history, obtain operative reports, confirm covered diagnosis (FBSS vs other), neurology consultation to characterize pain type

Case Complexity Distribution

Simple/Straightforward:	2 cases
Moderate:	5 cases
Complex:	2 cases
Edge Cases:	1 case

Common Denial/Pending Reasons

- **Missing Psychological Clearance:** Required per LCD L36204 screening criteria
- **Insufficient Conservative Treatment:** SCS is late resort - adequate trial of medications, PT, psychological therapy required
- **Active Substance Abuse:** Must not have active substance abuse issues per LCD
- **Incomplete Documentation:** Missing recent imaging, operative reports, or complete treatment history
- **Unclear Diagnosis:** Must confirm covered indication (FBSS, CRPS, peripheral neuropathy, etc.)