



Aetna Institutes of Quality® Orthopedic Surgery
Summary of criteria
Facility requirements for consideration

We may choose a facility for our Institutes of Quality Orthopedic Surgery network that meets our requirements for quality, value and access. We limit the evaluation for total joint replacement to knee and hip replacement surgery. We evaluate spinal surgery designation separately.

We may select a facility to participate in the network if it meets certain measures of:

- Clinical quality
- Contract requirements
- Cost efficiency
- Access for orthopedic surgery services

Designation process

The current three-year review cycle is 2023–2025. A new three-year review cycle will start in 2026.

Designation is valid for three years or until the start of the next three-year review cycle. It is dependent upon ongoing compliance with program requirements.

We follow these steps for designation:

1. The Institutes of Quality network applies only to adult patients ages 18 and over.
2. If the facility does not meet all applicable clinical criteria, it's not eligible for designation. We evaluate no further.
3. If the facility meets all applicable clinical criteria, we determine if the facility meets contract, cost efficiency and network access criteria. If the facility meets all these requirements, we'll designate it into the network.
4. We'll let the facility know if it's designated into the network and the effective date of designation.
5. We'll list the designated facility in our online provider directory.
6. To maintain designation, the facility must maintain compliance with all Institutes of Quality program requirements.
7. All facilities must be recertified for designation, which is typically every three years.

You can send any questions to AetnaOrthopedicIOQ-National@Aetna.com.

Data management

Programs must be able to collect, analyze and report data. And they must submit updated information upon request.

Program requirements

To be considered for designation, inpatient facilities and freestanding ambulatory surgery centers (ASC) must meet program requirements listed below.

Total joint replacement program requirements

To be considered for Institutes of Quality designation, the Joint Commission's Advanced Total Hip and Knee Replacement Certification or the DNV's Hip and Knee Replacement Program Certification is required. The facility must have registry reporting with the American Joint Replacement Registry. This includes an active contract. All registry requirements must also be maintained. All advanced certification metrics must be met as determined by The Joint Commission and DNV, and compliance with all advanced certification requirements must be maintained.

Contract, cost and access requirements must also be met in addition to:

1. The inpatient facility or ASC and the surgeons must be credentialed by Aetna®. They must participate in our provider network for all benefit plans and products available in their geographic area.
2. All orthopedic surgeons who practice at the facility must be board certified or board eligible by at least one of the

following: American Board of Orthopedic Surgery, American Osteopathic Board of Surgery, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

3. All anesthesiologists must be credentialed by Aetna®. They must participate in our provider network for all benefit plans and products available in their geographic area.

Spine surgery program requirements

To be considered for Institutes of Quality designation, the Joint Commission's Advanced Certification in Spine Surgery or the DNV's Spine Surgery Program Certification is required. The facility must have registry reporting with the American Spine Registry. This includes an active contract. All registry requirements must also be maintained. All advanced certification metrics must be met as determined by The Joint Commission and DNV, and compliance with all advanced certification requirements must be maintained.

Contract, cost and access requirements must also be met in addition to:

1. The inpatient facility or ASC and the surgeons must be credentialed by Aetna. They must participate in our provider network for all benefit plans and products available in their geographic area.
2. All orthopedic surgeons who practice at the facility must be board certified or board eligible by at least one of the following: American Board of Orthopedic Surgery, American Osteopathic Board of Surgery, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.
3. All neurosurgeons who practice at the facility must be board certified or board eligible by at least one of the following: American Board of Surgery, American Board of Neurological Surgery, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.
4. All anesthesiologists must be credentialed by Aetna. They must participate in our provider network for all benefit plans and products available in their geographic area.

Aetna is the brand name used for products and services provided by one or more of the Aetna group of companies, including Aetna Life Insurance Company and its affiliates (Aetna).