



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Department of Neurosurgery

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

For Immediate Release

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Anschutz Medical Campus Announces “Aetna Institute of Quality” Spine Center Designation

AURORA, CO (January 27, 2021). The Spine Center at Anschutz Medical Campus is pleased to announce that it has earned the prestigious Aetna Institute of Quality Designation. The Spine Center comprises faculty from the Departments of Orthopedics, Neurosurgery and Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation.

Aetna Institutes™ facilities are publicly recognized, high-quality, high-value health care facilities. Aetna's goals are to:

- Recognize facilities with distinguished performance for health services that are critical to members.
- Engage consumers by providing them with information to help make informed choices about facilities with distinguished performance.
- Provide access for our members to high-quality, cost-effective care.

The Spine Center at Anschutz Medical Campus was designated based on measures of clinical performance, access and efficiency for comprehensive spine care. Criteria included significant experience in spine care, including annual minimum volumes of at least 200 spine procedures; evidence-based and recognized standards for clinical outcomes, processes of care and patient safety; ongoing follow-up programs and support for spine patient; adherence to Aetna's standards for member access to the facility and Aetna participating providers; and demonstrated efficiency in providing care based on overall cost of care, readmission rates and comprehensiveness of program.

The Spine Center treats numerous conditions of the spine, hip and neck, including artificial discs, degenerative disc disease, disc replacement, herniated discs, generalized back pain, facet joints, spinal stenosis, neck pain and tumors of the spine. Services include evaluation and non-surgical treatment (when appropriate) with coordinated board certified spine specialists from the Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Department. Surgical decision making and management are covered by spine specialists in the Neurosurgery and Orthopedic Departments. Spinal injections, such as epidural steroids, selective nerve root blocks, facet

joint injections, sacroiliac and hip joint injections, EMG's and radiofrequencies are *some* of the numerous treatment and diagnostic modalities used. In addition, pain psychology evaluation is available to all patients.

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