# Vocational Rehabilitation Services Manual C-700: Medical Services

Revised January 02, 2018

### C-703-2: Back or Neck Treatment

Back or neck surgery requires:

* review by the LMC;
* consultation with State Office Program Specialist for physical disabilities; and
* VR Manager approval.

Spinal fusion surgeries involving three or more levels require:

* review by the LMC;
* consultation and approval of the Deputy Regional Director (DRD); and
* approval of the State Medical Director.

Back, neck, and spinal fusion surgeries may be purchased for a customer if the following criteria are met:

* The medical records must show evidence of:
  + abnormal radiographic imaging and clinical findings that correlate to the customer's symptoms;
  + a course of conservative treatment was completed if the treating physician has determined that conservative treatment is a reasonable treatment option for the customer's medical condition; or
  + other potential causes of the customer's symptoms have been ruled out; and
* The back or neck surgery is expected to remove the substantial impediment to employment by enhancing a customer's employability or capability to perform activities of daily living that will facilitate employment.