

## Eligibility criteria for basivertebral nerve ablation

Southern Cross will only reimburse the cost of basivertebral nerve ablation under a member's policy when criteria **1, 2, 3 and 4** below are met for that member.

1. The member has had a diagnosis of chronic lower back pain for at least 6 months, with failure of conservative management.
2. The member has moderate to severe levels of localised back pain (rated as 5 or greater on a visual analogue scale, or equivalent) at the time of the referral for basivertebral nerve ablation.
3. The member has not received a basivertebral nerve ablation in the past 12 months.
4. If the member has previously received a basivertebral nerve ablation, a reduction in pain of >50% is required for a repeat procedure to be considered for cover.

Please also ensure you are familiar with all **policy exclusions**, including:

- Acute care
- Congenital conditions
- Cosmetic treatment/procedures
- Health screening
- Treatment of any condition not detrimental to health
- Unapproved healthcare services.

Refer to the relevant policy document for specific conditions and exceptions that apply to these exclusions.