Health America
Quick Reference Guide
for Cardiac Catheterization

Effective February 1, 2012

HealthAmerica cardiac program requires prior authorization of elective, non-emergent cardiac catheterizations.
The following services will not be impacted by this relationship:
- Inpatient cardiac catheterizations
- Emergency cardiac catheterizations

The physician ordering the cardiac catheterization is responsible for obtaining prior authorization for cardiac catheterization services. The rendering facility must ensure that prior authorization was obtained. As the ordering physician, it is recommended that you develop a process to ensure that the appropriate authorization number(s) has been obtained. Payment to the ordering physician and rendering facility will be denied for procedures performed without necessary authorization, and the member cannot be balance-billed for such procedures.

Procedures Requiring Prior Authorization Under Health America *

- Cardiac Catheterization (CPT codes 93452, 93453, 93454, 93455, 93456, 93457, 93458, 93459, 93460, 93461)

The following services do not require authorization through NIA Magellan¹:
- Inpatient advanced imaging services
- Observation setting advanced imaging services
- Emergency Room imaging services

If an urgent/emergent clinical situation exists outside of a hospital emergency room, please contact NIA Magellan immediately with the appropriate clinical information for an expedited review. The number to call to obtain a prior authorization is 1-800-755-1135.

¹ NIA Magellan refers to National Imaging Associates, Inc.
Prior Authorization Process

There are two ways to obtain authorizations -- either through NIA Magellan’s website at www.RadMD.com or by calling 1-800-755-1135.

Information Needed to Obtain Prior Authorization

To expedite the prior authorization process, please have the following information ready before logging into NIA Magellan’s website or calling the NIA Magellan Call Center staff. (*Information is required.)

In order to complete an authorization request, the patient’s date of service is mandatory. If the date of service changes, you can update with NIA Magellan within the same authorization request.

Type of catheterization planned:
- Left heart
- Right heart
- Both left and right heart

If any of the following will be included:
- Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI) certain (can include PTCA/ Angioplasty, Stent, Atherectomy)
- PCI possible
- Septal closure

Reason for ordering the catheterization:
- Presentation of Coronary Artery Disease (CAD), with information about symptoms, angina, ischemia, etc.
- Recent positive stress test
- Coronary Calcium Score above 400
- Hospital admission within the past 30 days for myocardial infarction
- Heart failure within the past 2 weeks
- Positive CCTA (coronary CT angiogram) in past 90 days
- Pre-operative evaluation prior to valve surgery
- If none of the above, provide other reason

Stress Test & CCTA Results:
- Whether results were negative, positive or indeterminate and actual test results
- Extent of ischemia
- Patient’s exercise tolerance

Website Access
- It is the responsibility of the physician ordering the imaging procedure to access NIA Magellan’s website or call for prior authorization. Patient symptoms, past clinical history and prior treatment information will be required and should be available at the time of the contact.
  You can request prior authorization at www.RadMD.com. RadMD is available 24/7, except when maintenance is performed once every other week after business hours. To
begin, you will need to obtain your own unique user name and password for each individual user in your office. Simply go to www.RadMD.com, click on the New User button and complete the application form.

- If requesting authorizations through NIA Magellan’s website and your request is pended, you will receive a tracking number and NIA Magellan will contact you to complete the process.
- The NIA Magellan website cannot be used for retrospective or expedited authorization requests. Those requests must be processed by calling 1-800-755-1135.

**Telephone Access**

Call center hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. EST. You may obtain a prior authorization by calling 1-800-755-1135.

- NIA Magellan can accept multiple requests during one phone call.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

In this section NIA Magellan addresses commonly asked questions received from providers:

**How will a prior authorization be processed?**

Providers will follow the same process either on line via www.RadMD.com or by using the call center. The request for prior authorization will pend for clinical review and additional information will be requested from the patient’s chart. At the end of the process, an authorization number will be given when the request is approved.

**Why are HealthAmerica and NIA Magellan requiring prior authorization for cardiac catheterization procedures?**

Analysis of elective, non-emergent outpatient cardiac catheterizations reveals that a significant number of catheterizations are not preceded by a diagnostic stress test within 90 days prior to the procedure, and many catheterizations did not result in a procedure or intervention after the diagnostic catheterization was performed. It is HealthAmerica’s goal to ensure that patients receive the most appropriate procedure at the right time during their course of care.

**Where can I find NIA Magellan’s Clinical Guidelines?**

NIA Magellan’s Clinical Guidelines can be found on NIA Magellan’s website at www.RadMD.com.

- Go to http://www.radMD.com
- Click on the “Health Plans” selection on the Home page menu bar.
- Scroll down the page to locate your specific health plan name on the left side of the screen (Coventry/HealthAmerica); click once to open.
- Click on the link below “Preview of Clinical Guidelines” to open the pdf document.

**Is prior authorization necessary if HealthAmerica is not the member’s primary insurance?**

Yes. HealthAmerica’s prior authorization requirements apply when HealthAmerica is the primary and secondary insurer.
How long is an authorization number valid?
A prior authorization number will be valid for two weeks prior and two weeks post date of service (Calendar Days).

Who can I contact at NIA Magellan for questions and or concerns?
To educate your staff on NIA Magellan procedures and to assist you with any provider issues or concern, contact your NIA Magellan Area Provider Relations Manager.

What will the member ID card look like? Will it have both NIA Magellan and HealthAmerica information on the card? Or will there be two cards?
There will only be one HealthAmerica ID card, and it will not include NIA Magellan identifying information. Providers should contact NIA Magellan at RadMD.com or the toll-free number at 1-800-755-1135.