Dear Provider:

National Imaging Associates (NIA) currently provides radiation oncology benefit management services for primary cancers of the Breast, Prostate, Lung, Colon and Rectal for AvMed (AvMed) Commercial HMO and Medicare members.

Effective with dates of service beginning **August 1, 2015, this Radiation Oncology Solution program** will be expanded to include **All Cancer** conditions as well as management of select **Non-Cancerous** conditions for AvMed Commercial HMO and Medicare membership.

The following radiation therapy treatment plans require preauthorization based on medical necessity review:

- Low-Dose Rate (LDR) Brachytherapy
- High-Dose Rate (HDR) Brachytherapy
- 2D Conventional Radiation Therapy (2D)
- 3D Conformal Radiation Therapy (3D-CRT)
- Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT)
- Stereotactic Radiosurgery Therapy (SRT)
- Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy (SBRT)
- Proton Beam Radiation Therapy (PBT)
- Intra-Operative Radiation Therapy (IORT)
- Neutron Beam Therapy
- Hyperthermia

In addition to management of all cancers, the program also includes management of all other conditions (i.e. Brain and Spine Lesions, AVM, Trigeminal Neuralgia) for the following radiation therapy modalities:

- Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT)
- Stereotactic Radiation Therapy
- Proton Beam Radiation Therapy (PBT)

In an effort to ensure a seamless transition for patients whose radiation therapy started for cancer conditions outside of breast, lung, prostate, colon and rectal before August 1, 2015 and is expected to continue beyond this date, a **Radiation Therapy Notification Form** will need to be completed to ensure accurate claims payment for claims submitted after August 1, 2015. You may visit NIA’s website, [www.RadMD.com](http://www.RadMD.com) or [www.avmed.org](http://www.avmed.org) to locate this form.

An authorization based on medical necessity is required for all radiation therapy beginning on or after the August 1, 2015.
Key Provisions:

- The Radiation Oncologist must obtain medical necessity review (as described above) in parallel with his/her clinical treatment planning.
- Failure to verify that affected services have been authorized prior to rendering services may result in non-payment of your claim.
- Please Note: Inpatient radiation therapy treatment procedures do not require medical necessity review from NIA.

We appreciate your continued support. For more information about the NIA Radiation Oncology Solution, please refer to the enclosed Quick Reference Guide for Radiation Oncologists and Cancer Treatment Facilities. If you have any questions about this notice, please contact our Provider Service department at: 1 (800) 452-8633.

Sincerely,

Robert Bonnell, M.D.
Regional Medical Director