



CEDARS-SINAI  
MEDICAL GROUP



CEDARS-SINAI  
HEALTH ASSOCIATES

## Cedars-Sinai Quick Reference Guide for CS Link Ordering Providers

Effective May 1, 2016

Cedars-Sinai has selected National Imaging Associates, Inc. (NIA)<sup>1</sup> to implement a radiology benefit management program for outpatient advanced imaging services for Cedars-Sinai Medical Group (CSMG) and Cedars-Sinai Health Associates (CSHA) HMO Commercial and Medicare Advantage members. This program is consistent with industry-wide efforts to both ensure clinically appropriate care and oversee the utilization of these services.

### Procedures Requiring Prior Authorization From NIA:

- CT/CTA/CCTA
- MRI/MRA
- PET Scan
- Nuclear cardiology/MPI

*\*Other imaging studies that previously required authorization should still be entered through Access Express/Nautilus.*

- *Ultrasounds*
- *Dexa scan/Bone Densitometry*
- *all other routine imaging previously requiring prior authorization*

\*A separate authorization number is required for each procedure ordered.

### The following services do not require authorization through NIA:

- Inpatient imaging services
- Observation setting imaging services
- Emergency Room imaging services

If an urgent/emergent clinical situation exists outside of a hospital emergency room, please contact NIA immediately with the appropriate clinical information for an expedited review. The number to call to obtain a prior authorization is 1-800-424-5686, Monday-Friday, 8am-5:30pm, PST.

### Prior Authorization Process

<sup>1</sup> National Imaging Associates, Inc.(NIA) is a subsidiary of Magellan Healthcare, Inc.

CS Link Ordering Providers will follow their current process for Order Entry in CS Link today. Appropriate imaging referrals, based on health plan membership and NIA managed CPT codes, will be systematically routed to an “NIA In-Basket”. NIA staff will access these requests and begin processing in their system.

For information not available in CS Link, NIA may call your office for clarification or to request additional records.

### **Important Notes**

- Authorizations are valid for 90 days from the date of request.
- If you would like to know the status of your referral or authorization, please contact NIA at 1-800-424-5686, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. PST.
- For prior authorization complaints/appeals, please follow the instructions on your denial letter.
- NIA’s Clinical Guidelines can be found on NIA’s Web site, [www.RadMD.com](http://www.RadMD.com) under Online Tools/Clinical Guidelines. NIA’s guidelines for the use of imaging procedures have been developed from practice experience, literature reviews, specialty criteria sets and empirical data.
- Reviews and peer to peer discussions are conducted by Board Certified Physicians across a multitude of specialties. If you have any questions prior to submitting your order, you can call an NIA physician to discuss reasons for imaging requests and which is modality would be most appropriate at 1-800-424-5686.
- An authorization number is not a guarantee of payment. Whether the requested service is covered is subject to all of the terms and conditions of the member's benefit plan, including but not limited to, member eligibility, benefit coverage at the time of the services are provided and any pre-existing condition exclusions.