ConnectiCare Musculoskeletal (MSK) Management Program

Provider Training Presented by: Charmaine Everett

Date:



National Imaging Associates, Inc. (NIA) Program Agenda 🗡



Our MSK Program

- Authorization Process
 - Other Program Components
- Provider Tools and Contact Information
- RadMD Demo
- Questions and Answers



NIA Specialty Solutions

National Footprint / Medicaid Experience

National Footprint

- Since 1995 delivering Medical Specialty Solutions; one of the *goto* care partners in industry.
- 91 health plans/markets partnering with NIA for management of Medical Specialty Solutions.
- 33.69M national lives –
 participating in an NIA Medical
 Specialty Solutions Program
 nationally.
- Diverse populations Medicaid, Exchanges, Medicare, Commercial, FEP, Provider Entities.





Medicaid/Medicare Expertise/Insights

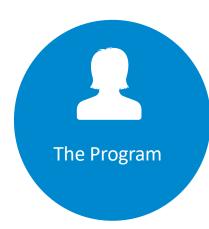
- 54 Medicaid plans/markets with NIA Medical Specialty Solutions in place.
- 18.65M Medicaid lives in addition to 2.15M Medicare Advantage lives participating in an NIA Medical Specialty Solutions program nationally.

Intensive Clinical Specialization & Breadth

- Specialized Physician Teams
 - 160+ actively practicing, licensed, board-certified physicians
 - 28 specialties and sub-specialties



NIA's MSK Preauthorization/Pre-registration Program



 ConnectiCare began a preauthorization program through NIA for the management of MSK Services.



Program start date: October 1, 2015



Procedures:

- Outpatient, interventional spine pain management services (IPM)
- Inpatient and outpatient hip, knee, shoulder, lumbar and cervical, thoracic spine and other surgeries

Settings:

- Surgery Center
- In Office Provider
- Hospital



- Exchange Programs
- Commercial Programs
- Medicare



NIA will manage non-emergent select services for ConnectiCare members, effective October 1, 2015 through ConnectiCare's contractual relationships.



NIA's IPM Solution

Procedures Performed on or after October 1, 2015 Require Preauthorization





- Spinal Epidural Injections
- Paravertebral Facet Joint Injections or Blocks
- Paravertebral Facet Joint Denervation(Radiofrequency (RF) Neurolysis)
- Sacroiliac joint injections
- Implantable Infusion Pump Insertion
- Other Spine Procedures or Devices (No or Limited Evidence of Effectiveness)





Excluded from the Program

IPM Procedures Performed in
the following Settings:

- Hospital Inpatient
- Observation Room
- Emergency Room

 NIA will use the ConnectiCare network of Pain Management Physicians, Hospitals and In-Office Providers as it's preferred providers for delivering Outpatient IPM Services to ConnectiCare members throughout Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island.



NIA's Lumbar and Cervical Spine Surgery





Procedures Performed in an Inpatient and Outpatient Facility

- Lumbar Microdiscectomy
- Lumbar Decompression (Laminotomy, Laminectomy, Facetectomy & Foraminotomy)
- Lumbar Spine Fusion (Arthrodesis) With or Without Decompression – Single & Multiple Levels
- Cervical Anterior Decompression with Fusion –Single & Multiple Levels
- Cervical Posterior Decompression with Fusion –Single & Multiple Levels
- Cervical Posterior Decompression (without fusion)
- Cervical Artificial Disc Replacement Single & Two Levels
- Cervical Anterior Decompression (without fusion)
- Lumbar Artificial Disc Single & Two Levels
- Sacroiliac Joint Fusion
- Thoracic Spine Surgery (Non-Deformity)
- Spine Surgery Other (Neoplasm, Lesion, Infection (All Regions)
- Other Spine Procedures or Devices (No or Limited Evidence of Effectiveness):
 - Pre-Sacral/Axial Interbody Fusion
 - Total Facet Arthroplasty







Excluded from the Program Surgeries Performed in the following Settings:

 Emergency Surgery – admitted via the Emergency Room



List of CPT Procedure Codes Requiring Preauthorization





Review Claims/Utilization Review Matrix to determine CPT codes managed by NIA.



CPT Codes and their Allowable Billable Groupings.



Located on RadMD.com.



Defer to ConnectiCare's Policies for Procedures not on Claims/Utilization Review Matrix.





ConnectiCare Utilization Review Matrix 2023 Outpatient Interventional Pain Management (IPM)

The matrix below contains all of the CPT 4 codes for which National Imaging Associates, Inc. (NIA) manages on behalf of ConnectiCare. This matrix is designed to assist in the resolution of claims adjudication and claims questions related to those services authorized by NIA. The "Allowable Billed Groupings" is meant to outline that if a given procedure is authorized, that any one of the listed procedure codes could be submitted on a claim representing that service. This assumes that the member is eligible at the time of the service, that appropriate rebundling rules are applied, that the claim includes an appropriate diagnosis code for the CPT code and that the service is performed within the validity period.

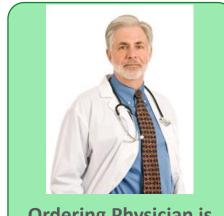
If a family of CPT codes is not listed in this matrix, an exact match is required between the authorized CPT code and the billed CPT code. If the exact match does not occur, the charge should be adjudicated accordingly.

Please note: IPM services rendered in an Emergency Room, Observation Room, Intraoperatively, or —as a Hospital Impatient are not managed by Magellan Healthcare

Procedure Name	Primary CPT Code	Allowable Billed Groupings
Sacroiliac Joint Injection	27096	27098, G0280
Cervical/Thoracic Interlaminar Epidural	62321	62320, 62321
Cervical/Thoracic Transforaminal Epidural	64479	64479, +64480
Lumbar/Sacral Interlaminar Epidural	62323	62322, 62323
Lumbar/Sacral Transforaminal Epidural	64483	64483, +64484
Cervical/Thoracic Facet Joint Block	64490	64490, + 64491, +64492, 0213T, +0214T, +0215T
Lumbar/Sacral Facet Joint Block	64493	64493, +64494, +64495, 0216T, +0217T, +0218T
Cervical/Thoracic Facet Joint Radiofrequency Neurolysis	64633	64633, +64634



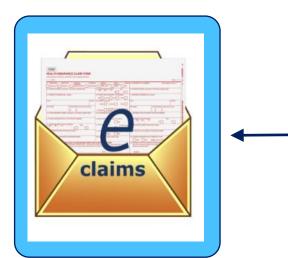
Preauthorization Process Overview



Ordering Physician is responsible for obtaining preauthorization.

IPM provider may be both ordering and rendering

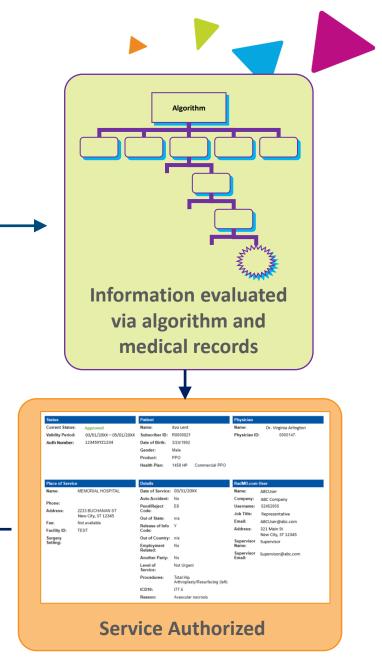






or by Phone

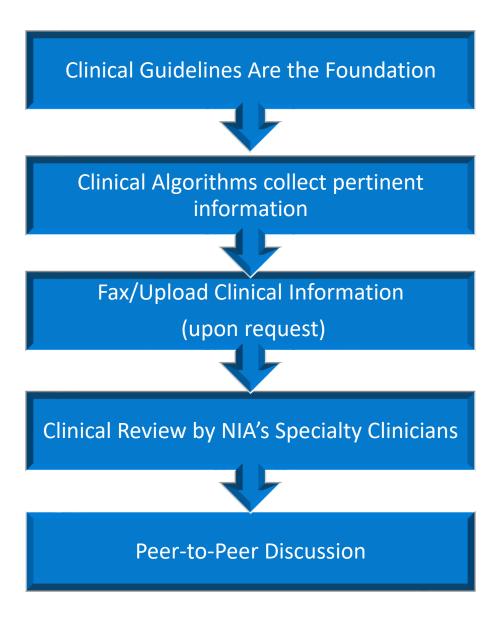
Rendering Provider
Performs Service and
ensures authorization was
obtained





NIA's Clinical Foundation & Review





- Clinical guidelines were developed by practicing specialty physicians, through literature reviews and evidenced-based research. Guidelines are reviewed and mutually approved by the Plan and NIA Medical Officers and clinical experts. Clinical Guidelines are available on RadMD.com
- Algorithms are a branching structure that changes depending upon the answer to each question.
- The member's clinical information/medical record will be required for validation of clinical criteria before an approval can be made.
- NIA has a specialized clinical team focused on MSK.
- Peer-to-peer discussions are offered for any request that does not meet medical necessity guidelines.
- Our goal ensure that members are receiving appropriate care.



Information for Authorization for IPM Injections



Special Information

- Every IPM procedure performed requires a preauthorization; NIA does not pre-approve a series of epidural injections.
- Bi-lateral IPM injections performed on the same date of service do not require a separate authorization. An authorization will cover bi-lateral as well as multiple levels on the same date of service. (Please refer to guidelines for potential restrictions)
- Add on codes do not require separate authorization and are to be used in conjunction with approved primary code for the service rendered.



IPM Clinical Checklist Reminders



IPM Documentation:



Conservative Treatment

• Frequently, specifics of active conservative treatment/non-operative treatment are not present in office notes. Details such as duration and frequency should be provided in order to ensure 6 weeks has been attempted within the past 6 months. Official physical therapy records do not need to be obtained but the provider should supply a summary of these details. Physical therapy is not the only means of active conservative treatment acceptable; physician directed home exercise programs as well as chiropractic care are among other examples of appropriate treatments.



Visual Analog Scale (VAS) Score and/or Functional Disability

 A VAS score is an acceptable method to relay intensity of pain. However, a description of functional disability is also accepted as a means for measuring pain (ie - noting that the member is no longer able to perform work duties, daily care, etc).



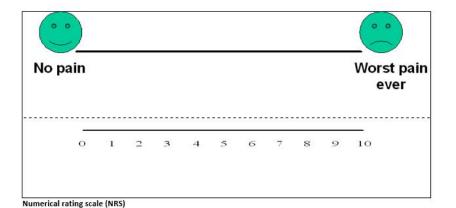
Follow Up To Prior Pain Management Procedures

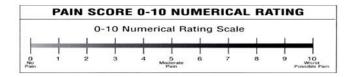
For repeat treatments, follow up is required in regard to what procedure was completed, how much and for how long relief was obtained, active participation in ongoing conservative treatment, and to what level the pain has returned. A follow up office visit is not required; documentation of telephone encounters with the member are acceptable to satisfy this requirement.



Sample Pain Rating Scales

Visual analogue scale (VAS)





Faces rating scale (FRS)

Wong Baker Face Scale





Information for Authorization for Surgery Procedures



Special Information

- Most surgeries will require only one authorization request. NIA will provide a list of surgery categories to choose from. The surgeon's office must select the most complex and invasive surgery being performed as the **primary** surgery.
 - Example 1: A lumbar fusion authorization includes decompression, instrumentation, etc.
 - Example 2: A knee ligament reconstruction includes meniscectomy, debridement, etc.
- Bilateral hip or knee surgeries require authorization for both the left and right side. These requests can be entered at the same time and will be reviewed concurrently. ACDF and posterior cervical fusion require authorization for each procedure. These requests can be entered at the same time and will be reviewed concurrently.
- Inpatient admissions will continue to be subject to concurrent review by ConnectiCare.
- Date of Service is required.
- Facilities must continue to follow ConnectiCare's current notification requirements for urgent/emergent hospital admissions and elective surgery based on a member's benefit and coverage requirements. Inpatient admissions, including emergency admissions for spine surgery, will continue to be subject to concurrent review by ConnectiCare.



Surgery Clinical Checklist Reminders



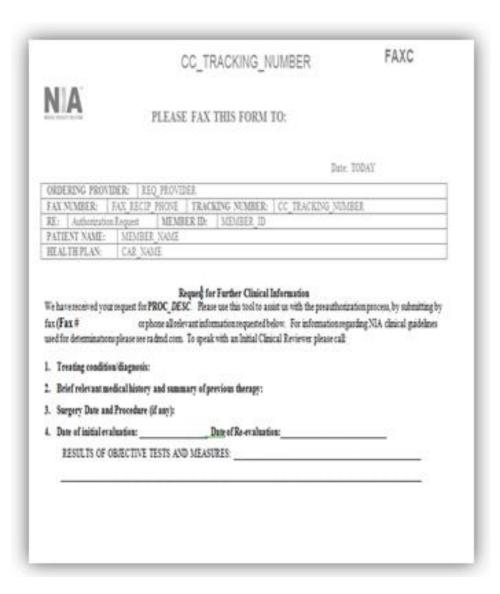
Surgery Documentation:

- Details regarding the member's symptoms and their onset/duration
- Physical exam findings
- Conservative treatment modalities with dates and duration (e.g., physical therapy, home exercise plan, injections, medications, activity modification)
- Diagnostic imaging results
- Ordering physician's surgical plan (including a discussion about the potential risks and benefits of the procedure) (BMI, smoking history, mental status for some surgeries)



NIA to Physician: Request for Clinical Information







A fax is sent to the provider detailing what clinical information that is needed, along with a Fax Coversheet.



We stress the need to provide the clinical information as quickly as possible so we can make a determination.



Determination timeframe begins after receipt of clinical information.



Failure to receive requested clinical information may result in non certification.



Submitting Additional Clinical Information



- Records may be submitted:
 - Upload to https://www.RadMD.com
 - Fax using that NIA coversheet
- Location of Fax Coversheets:
 - Can be printed from https://www.RadMD.com
 - Call 1-877-607-2363
- Use the case specific fax coversheets when faxing clinical information to NIA





Clinical Specialty Team: Focused on IPM and MSK





IPM Reviews

Initial clinical review performed by specially trained IPM nurses

Clinical review team will proactively reach out for additional clinical information

Anesthesiologists and pain management specialists conduct clinical reviews and peerto-peer discussions on IPM requests



MSK Surgery Reviews

Initial clinical review performed by specialty trained surgery nurses

Surgery concierge team will proactively reach out for additional clinical information

Orthopedic surgeons or neurosurgeons conduct clinical reviews and peer-to-peer discussions on surgery requests



MSK Clinical Review Process



Physicians' Office Contacts NIA for preauthorization









NIA Initial Clinical Specialty Team Review

- Additional clinical information submitted and reviewed Procedure Approved
- Additional clinical not complete or inconclusive Escalate to Physician Review



Designated & Specialized Clinical MSK Team interacts with Provider Community.

2

3

4

System Evaluates Request Based on Information Entered by Physician & Physician Profile

• Additional clinical information required



• NIA Physician approves case <u>without</u> peer-to-peer



Peer-to-peer outbound attempt made if case is not approvable

- NIA Physician approves case with peer-to-peer
- Ordering Physician withdraws case during peer-to-peer
- Physician denies case based on medical criteria

Key NIA Differentiators

Generally the turnaround time for completion of these requests is within two to three business days upon receipt of sufficient clinical information)



NIA Urgent/Expedited MSK Authorization Process



Urgent/Expedited MSK Authorization Process

- If an urgent clinical situation exists (outside of a hospital emergency room) during business hours, please call NIA immediately.
- The NIA website https://www.RadMD.com cannot be used for medically urgent or expedited preauthorization requests during business hours. Those requests must be processed by calling the NIA call center at 1-877-607-2363.
- Turnaround time is within 1 Business day not to exceed 72 Business
 Calendar Hours.



Notification of Determination



Authorization Notification

Validity Period - Authorizations are valid for:

IPM

60 days from date of request

Surgical

- Inpatient, Outpatient- SDC/Ambulatory 60 days from date of request
- The date of service that is selected at the time of the preauthorization request, will be used to determine the validity period.

Denial Notification

- Notifications will include an explanation of what services have been denied and the clinical rationale for the denial
- A peer-to-peer discussion can be initiated once the adverse determination has been made.
- A reconsideration/re-open may be available with new or additional information.
 - A reconsideration must be initiated within 15 calendar days from the date of denial and prior to submitting a formal appeal
 - A request to re-open must be initiated within the following timeframes from the date of denial and prior to submitting a formal appeal:
 - within 1 year for any reason
 - within 4 years for good cause
 - Anytime to correct a clerical error on which the determination was made a specialized clinical team focused on Medical Specialty Solutions services In the event of a denial, providers are asked to follow the instructions provided in their denial letter.

IPM Points





Injections in all regions of spine are managed



Date of Service is required for all requests



Each IPM procedure must be prior authorized



No series of epidural injections



Specialty Nurses and Physicians will review IPM requests



MSK Surgery Points – Lumbar/Cervical/Thoracic and > Other Spine Surgeries, Procedures and Devices





Inpatient and outpatient non-emergent surgeries



Spine Surgery is focused on Lumbar, Cervical, Thoracic, Other Spine Surgeries, Procedures and Devices



For spinal surgeries, only one authorization request per surgery. For example, a Lumbar fusion authorization includes decompression, instrumentation, etc.



MSK Surgery Points – For all Surgeries





Specialized Orthopedic Surgeons or Neurosurgeons will review surgery requests. Inpatient admissions will continue to be subject to concurrent review by ConnectiCare.



Facilities must continue to follow ConnectiCare's current notification requirements for urgent/emergent hospital admissions and elective surgery based on a member's benefit and coverage requirements.

Inpatient admissions, including emergency admissions for spine surgery, will continue to be subject to concurrent review by ConnectiCare



Authorizations are valid for 60 days from the date of service.



Provider Tools





RadMD Website

RadMD.com

Available

24/7 (except during maintenance, performed every third Thursday of the month from 9 pm – midnight PST)



Toll-Free Number 1-877-607-2363 Available



Monday - Friday 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM EST

- Request Authorization
- View Authorization Status
- View and manage Authorization Requests with other users
- Upload Additional Clinical Information
- View Requests for additional Information and Determination Letters
- View Clinical Guidelines
- View Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- View Other Educational Documents

Interactive Voice Response (IVR)
 System for authorization tracking



NIA's Website

https://www.RadMD.com

RadMD Functionality varies by user:

- Ordering Provider's Office View and submit requests for authorization.
- Rendering Provider Views approved, pended and in review authorizations for their facility.
- IPM providers are typically both the ordering and the rendering provider.

Online Tools Accessed through https://www.RadMD.com:

- NIA's Clinical Guidelines
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Quick Reference Guides
- IPM Checklist
- RadMD Quick Start Guide
 - Claims/Utilization Matrices







Registering on RadMD.com To Initiate Authorizations

Everyone in your organization is required to have their own separate username and password due to HIPAA regulations.

STEPS:

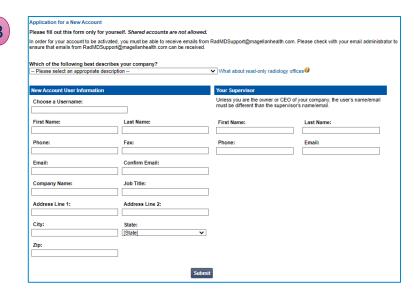
- 1. Click the "New User" button on the right side of the home page.
- 2. Select "Physician's office that orders procedures"
- Fill out the application and click the "Submit" button.
 - You must include your e-mail address in order for our Webmaster to respond to you with your NIA-approved username and password.

Offices that will be both ordering and rendering should request ordering provider access, this will allow your office to request authorizations on RadMD and see the status of those authorization requests.





-- Please Select an Appropriate Description -Physician's office that orders procedures
Facility/office where procedures are performed
Health Insurance company
Cancer Treatment Facility or Hospital that performs radiation oncology procedures
Physicians office that prescribes radiation oncology procedures
Physical Medicine Practitioner (PT, OT, ST, Chiro, etc.)





Allows Users the ability to view all approved, pended and in review authorizations for facility



IMPORTANT

- Everyone in your organization is required to have their own separate username and password due to HIPAA regulations.
- Designate an "Administrator" for the facility who manages the access for the entire facility.

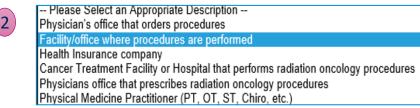
STEPS:

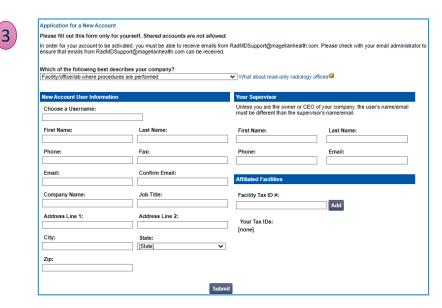
- Click the "New User" button on the right side of the home page.
- 2. Select "Facility/office where procedures are performed"
- 3. Fill out the application and click the "Submit" button.
 - You must include your e-mail address in order for our Webmaster to respond to you with your NIA-approved username and password.
- 4. New users will be granted immediate access

NOTE: On subsequent visits to the site, click the "Sign In" button to proceed.

If you have multiple staff members entering authorizations and you want each person to be able to see all approved, pended and in review authorizations, they will need to register for a rendering username and password. The administrator will have the ability to approve rendering access for each employee. This will allow users to see all approved, pended and in review authorizations under your organization.









RadMD Enhancements



NIA offers a **Shared Access** feature on our <u>RadMD.com</u> website. Shared Access allows ordering providers to view authorization requests initiated by other RadMD users within their practice.

		Provider Resources	User	•
Request	Resources and Tools			
Exam or specialty procedure	Shared Access			
(including Cardiac, Ultrasound, Sleep Assessment)	Clinical Guidelines			
Physical Medicine Initiate a Subsequent Request	Request access to Tax ID			
Radiation Treatment Plan	News and Updates			
Pain Management or Minimally Invasive Procedure				
Spine Surgery or Orthopedic Surgery				
Genetic Testing				
	Login As Username:	Login		
Request Status				
Search for Request	Tracking Number:	Search		
View All My Requests	Forgot Tracking	Number?		

If practice staff is unavailable for a period of time, access can be shared with other users in the practice. They will be able to view and manage the authorization requests initiated on RadMD.com, allowing them to communicate with members and facilitate treatment.



When to Contact NIA



Providers:

Initiating or checking the status of an authorization	 Website, https://www.RadMD.com Toll-free number 1-877-607-2363 Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System 	
Initiating a Peer-to-Peer Consultation	• Call 1-877-607-2363	
Provider Service Line	 RadMDSupport@Evolent.com Call 1-800-327-0641 	
Provider Education requests or questions specific to NIA	 Charmaine Everett Provider Relations Manager 1-800-450-7281, Ext. 32615 <u>ceverett@Evolent.com</u> 	



RadMD Demonstration





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Thanks

