

## Tufts Health Public Plan Musculoskeletal (MSK) Management Program

Revised September 2023



# 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

<sup>\*</sup> Effective 1/20/2023, National Imaging Associates, Inc. is now a subsidiary of Evolent Health. Evolent Health and its affiliates and subsidiaries collectively referred to as "Evolent."

### NIA Specialty Solutions

National Footprint / Experience

#### **National Footprint**

- Since 1995 delivering Medical Specialty Solutions; one of the *go-to* care partners in industry.
- 88 health plans/markets –
  partnering with NIA for
  management of Medical Specialty
  Solutions.
- 32.79M national lives –
  participating in an NIA Medical
  Specialty Solutions Program
  nationally.
- Diverse populations Medicaid, Exchanges, Medicare, Commercial, FEP, Provider Entities.



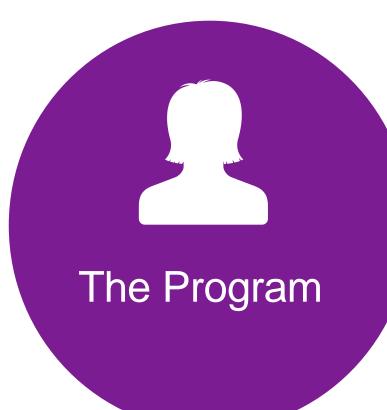
#### Commercial/Medicaid/Medicare Expertise/Insights

- 42 Commercial and 56 Medicaid plans/markets with NIA Medical Specialty Solutions in place.
- 10.66M Commercial and 20.51M
  Medicaid lives nationally in addition
  to 1.63M Medicare Advantage

## Intensive Clinical Specialization & Breadth

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

## MSK Prior Authorization Program



**Tufts Health** Public Plan has a prior authorization program through NIA for the management of MSK Services.



Program start date: December 1, 2015



- Outpatient, interventional spine pain management (IPM) services
- Inpatient and outpatient hip, knee, shoulder, lumbar and cervical spine surgeries
- **Surgery Center**
- In Office
- Hospital



- Medicaid
- Exchange
- Commercial



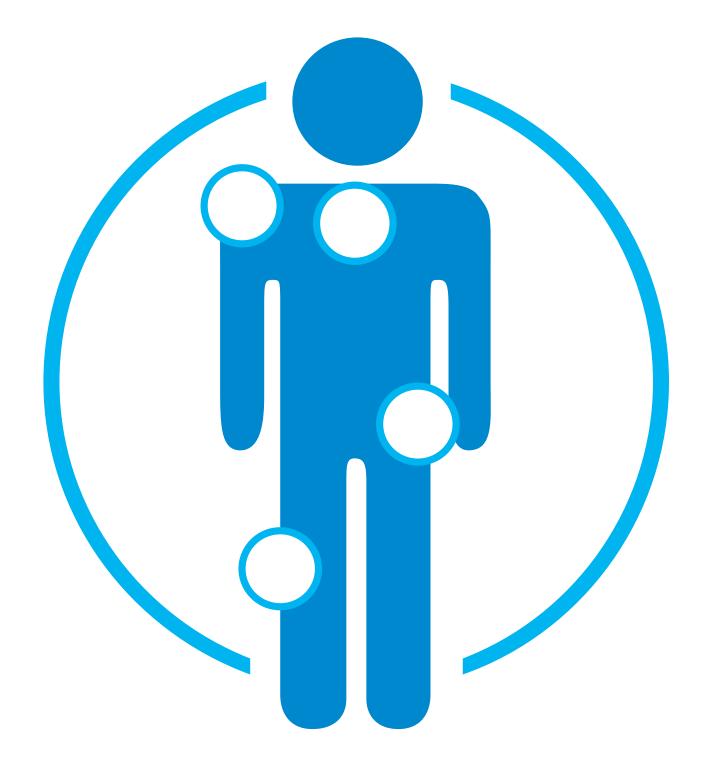
NIA manages services through Tufts Health Public Plan contractual relationships.

## Interventional Pain Management (IPM)



### IPM Procedures Performed Outpatient or In-Office

- Spinal Epidural Injections
- Paravertebral Facet Joint Injections or Blocks
- Paravertebral Facet Joint Denervation (Radiofrequency (RF) Neurolysis)





### IPM Procedures Performed in these Settings are Excluded:

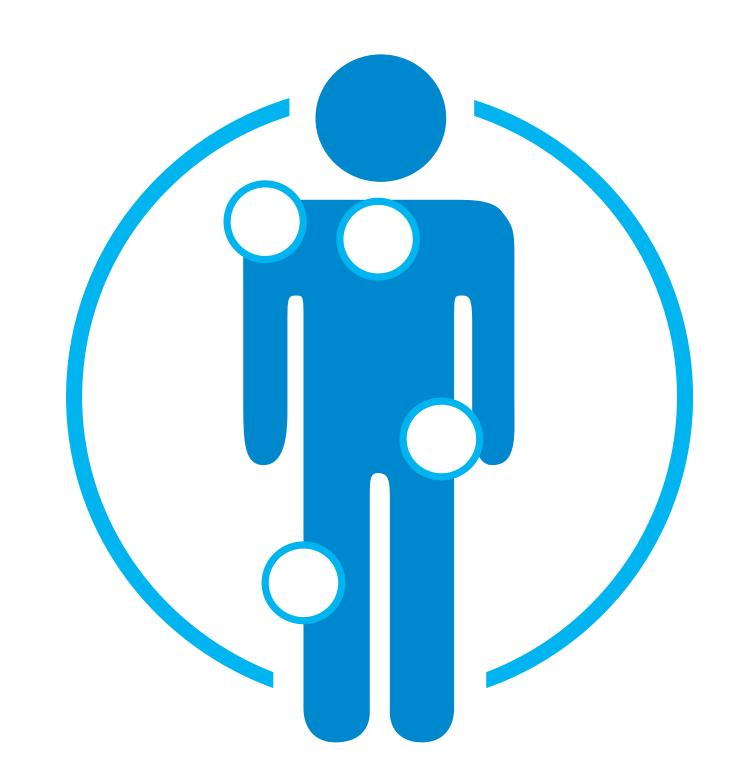
- Hospital Inpatient
- Observation Room
- Emergency Room/Urgent Care Facility

Tufts Health Public Plan network providers are the preferred providers for delivering MSK services to Tufts Health Public Plan members.

## Lumbar and Cervical Spine Surgery

### **Lumbar and Cervical Spine Surgeries Performed Inpatient and Outpatient**

- 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





### Surgery Performed in this Setting is Excluded:

Emergency Surgery –
 admitted via the
 Emergency Room

Reconstructive spinal deformity surgery does not require prior authorization. However, NIA will monitor provider use of CPT codes 22800-22819.

## Hip, Knee and Shoulder Surgery

#### **Hip Surgeries Performed Inpatient and Outpatient**

- Revision/Conversion Hip Arthroplasty
- Total Hip Arthroplasty/Resurfacing
- Femoroacetabular Impingement (FAI) Hip Surgery (includes CAM/pincer & labral repair)
- Hip Surgery Other (includes synovectomy, loose body removal, debridement, diagnostic hip arthroscopy, and extraarticular arthroscopy knee)

#### **Knee Surgeries Performed Inpatient and Outpatient**

- Revision Knee Arthroplasty
- Total Knee Arthroplasty (TKA)
- Partial-Unicompartmental Knee Arthroplasty (UKA)
- Knee Manipulation under Anesthesia (MUA)
- Knee Ligament Reconstruction/Repair
- Knee Meniscectomy/Meniscal Repair/Meniscal Transplant
- Knee Surgery Other (includes synovectomy, loose body removal, diagnostic knee arthroscopy, debridement with or without chondroplasty, lateral release/patellar realignment, articular cartilage restoration)



#### **Shoulder Surgeries Performed Inpatient and Outpatient**

- Revision Shoulder Arthroplasty
- Total/Reverse Shoulder Arthroplasty or Resurfacing
- Partial Shoulder Arthroplasty/Hemiarthroplasty
- Shoulder Rotator Cuff Repair
- Shoulder Labral Repair
- Frozen Shoulder Repair/Adhesive Capsulitis
- Shoulder Surgery Other (includes debridement, manipulation, decompression, tenotomy, tenodesis, synovectomy, claviculectomy, diagnostic shoulder arthroscopy)



#### **Surgery Performed in this Setting is Excluded:**

 Emergency Surgery – admitted via the Emergency Room

## CPT Codes Requiring Prior Authorization (IPM)













## Tufts Health Plan Utilization Review Matrix 2023 Outpatient Interventional Pain Management (IPM)

The matrix below contains the CPT 4 codes for which National Imaging Associates Inc. (NIA) authorizes on behalf of Tufts Health Plan.

NIA issues authorizations based on the primary CPT code and its allowable billed groupings. A procedure can be billed under any one of the given CPT codes for that allowable billed grouping as long as a valid authorization number has been issued within the validity period.

Please note: IPM services rendered in an Emergency Room, Observation Room, Intraoperatively, or as a Hospital Inpatient are not managed by NIA

Procedure Name	Primary CPT Code	Allowable Billed Groupings
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
Lumbar/Sacral Facet Joint Radiofrequency Neurolysis	64635	64635, +64636

## CPT Codes Requiring Prior Authorization (Joint Surgery)





## Tufts Health Public Plans Utilization Review Matrix 2023 Musculoskeletal Surgery (Hip, Knee, and Shoulder)

		HIP	SURGERY	
Primary Surgery Request	Primary CPT Code	Primary Surgery Allowable Billed Groupings	Additional Covered Procedures/Codes	
Authorization is provided for the <u>primary surgery</u> requested. There are multiple CPT codes that can be associated with each procedure. These are assumed to be part of the primary surgery request and when completed in combination, do not require a separate authorization.				
Revision/Conversion Hip Arthroplasty	27134	27132, 27134, 27137, 27138		
Total Hip Arthroplasty/Resurfacing	27130	27130, S2118		
Femoroacetabular Impingement (FAI) Hip Surgery	29914	29914, 29915, 29916	Loose Body Removal: 29861 Chondroplasty: 29862 Synovectomy: 29863	
Hip Surgery – Other	29863	29860, 29861, 29862, 29863		

## CPT Codes Requiring Prior Authorization (Spine Surgery)





## Tufts Health Plan Utilization Review Matrix 2023 Musculoskeletal Surgery (Spine)

LUMBAR SPINE SURGERY					
Primary Surgery Request	Primary CPT Code	Primary Surgery Allowable Billed Groupings  Additional Covered Procedures/Codes		Ancillary Procedures/Codes	
Authorization is provided for the <u>primary surgery</u> requested. There are multiple CPT codes that can be associated with each procedure. These are assumed to be part of the primary surgery request and when completed in combination, do not require a separate authorization.			These codes do not require prior authorization. If the main surgical procedure is approved, these codes are understood to be included in conjunction and do not require precertification from the health plan. *Please note: This is not an all-inclusive list of every ancillary code.		
Lumbar Microdiscectomy	63030	62380, 63030, +63035			
Lumbar Decompression	63047	63005, 63012, 63017, 63042, +63044, 63047, +63048, 63056, +63057	Microdiscectomy: 62380, 63030, +63035		
Lumbar Fusion - Single Level	22612	22533, 22558, 22612, 22630, 22633, +63052, +63053	Microdiscectomy: 62380, 63030, +63035 Decompression: 63005, 63012, 63017, 63042, +63044, 63047, +63048, 63056, +63057	Instrumentation: +22840, +22841, +22842, +22845, +22853  Bone Grafts: +20930, +20931, +20936, +20937, +20938  Bone Marrow Aspiration: 20939	

### Prior Authorization Process Overview



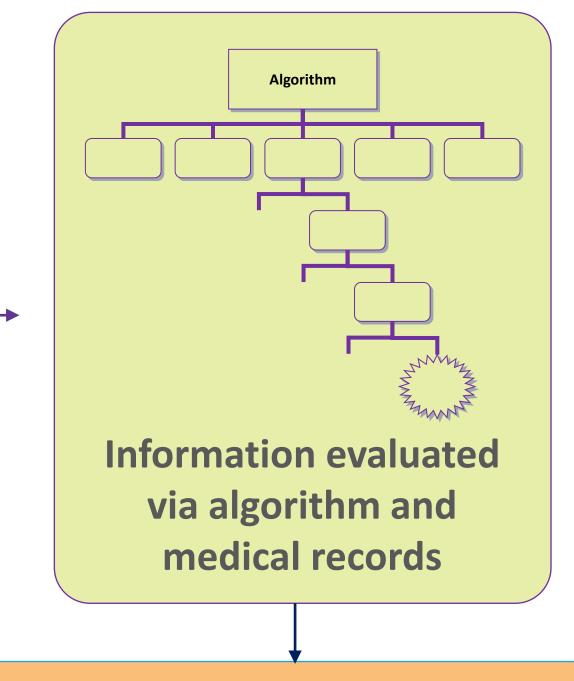
Ordering Physician is responsible for obtaining prior authorization.
MSK provider may be both ordering and rendering

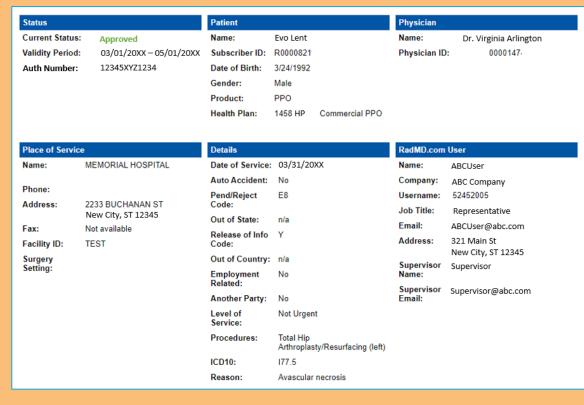




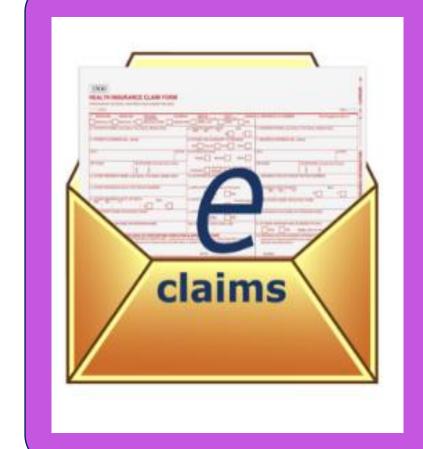


Rendering Provider verifies authorization was obtained and provides service

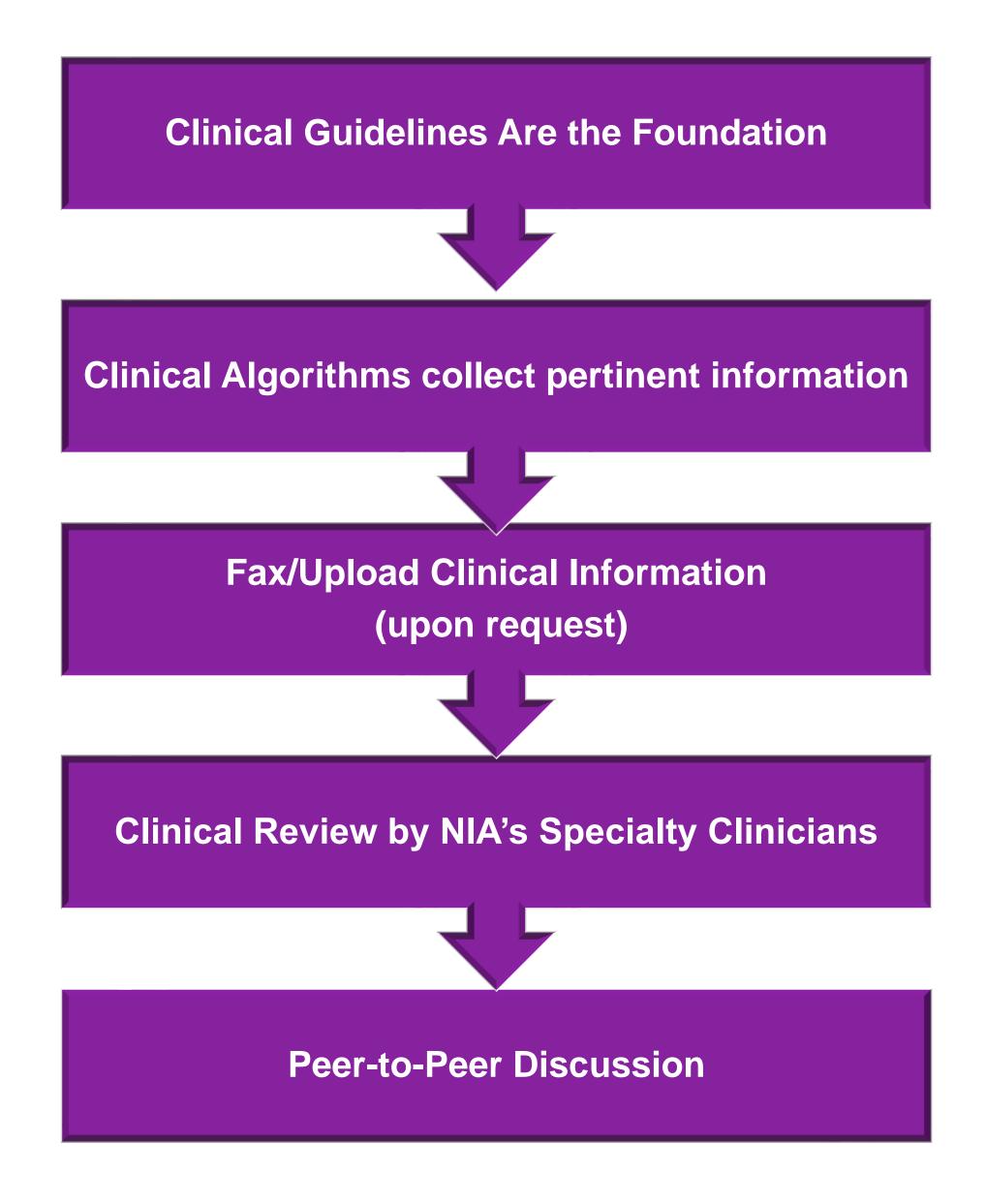




**Service Authorized** 



### 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 Tufts Health Public 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.

### Authorization for IPM

## Special Information

- Every IPM procedure performed requires a prior authorization; NIA will not authorize 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 clinical guidelines for potential restrictions)
- Add on codes do not require separate authorization and are to be used in conjunction with the 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

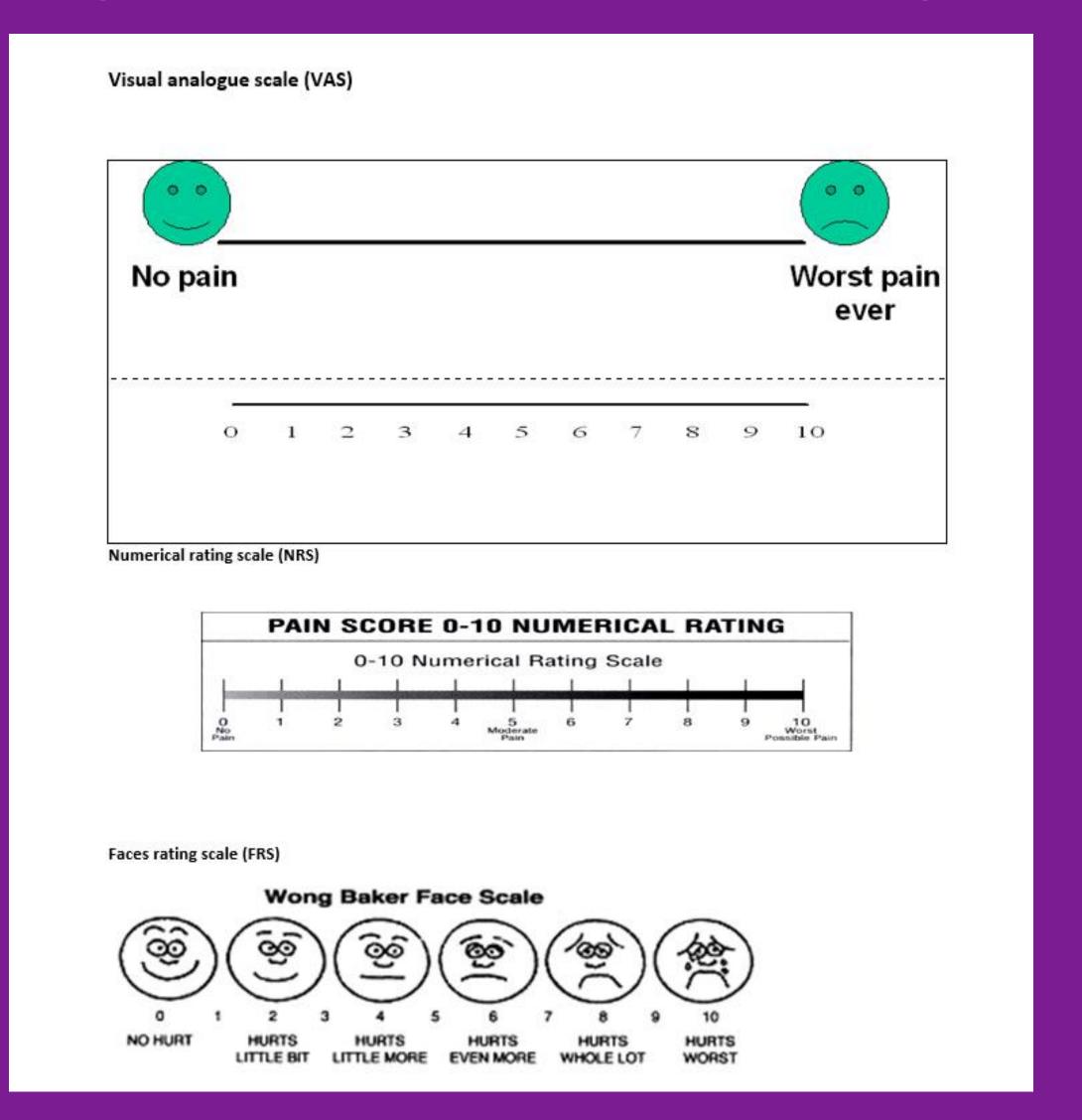
 A VAS score is an acceptable method to relay intensity of pain. However, a description of functional disability is also accepted as a means for measuring pain (ie - noting that the member is no longer able to perform work duties, daily care, etc).



#### 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.

#### Visual Analogue Scale (VAS) and Faces Rating Scale (FRS)



## Authorization for Surgery

## **Special Information**

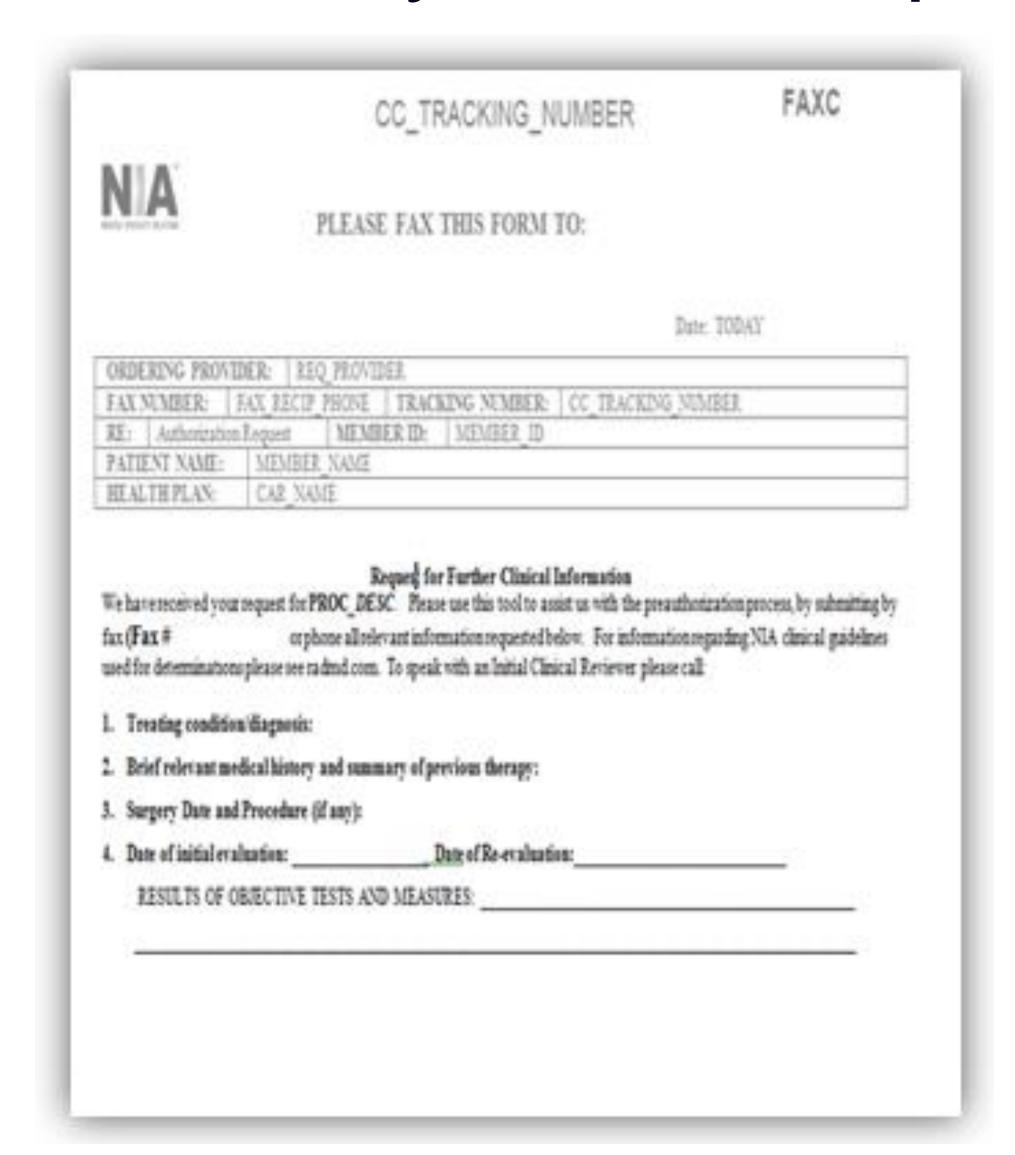
- Most surgeries require only one authorization request. NIA provides a list of surgery categories to choose from and the surgeon's office must select the most complex and invasive surgery being performed as the **primary** surgery.
  - Example 1: A lumbar fusion authorization includes decompression, instrumentation, etc.
  - Example 2: A knee ligament reconstruction includes meniscectomy, debridement, etc.
- Bilateral hip, knee, or shoulder surgeries require authorization for both the left **and** right side. 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 continue to be subject to concurrent review by Tufts Health Public Plan.
- Date of Service is required.
- Any Tufts Health Public Plan prior authorization requirements for the facility or hospital admission must be obtained separately and only initiated after the surgery has met NIA's medical necessity criteria.

## 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 <u>https://www.RadMD.com</u>
  - Fax using NIA coversheet
- Location of Fax Coversheets:
  - Can be printed from https://www.RadMD.com
  - Call1-800-207-4209
- Use the case specific fax coversheet when faxing clinical information to NIA



## Clinical Specialty Team: Focused on IPM and MSK



#### **IPM Review**

Initial clinical review performed by specially trained IPM nurses

Clinical review team will contact provider for additional clinical information

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



#### **MSK Surgery Review**

Initial clinical review performed by specialty trained surgery nurses

Surgery concierge team will contact provider for additional clinical information Orthopedic surgeons or neurosurgeons conduct clinical reviews and peer-to-peer discussions on surgery requests

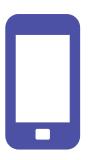
### MSK Clinical Review Process

### Physicians' Office Contacts NIA for Prior Authorization









#### 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.

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### Request Evaluated Based on Information Entered

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-topeer
- Physician denies case based on medical criteria



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

## Urgent/Expedited Authorization Process

- If an urgent clinical situation exists (outside of a hospital emergency room) during business hours, please call NIA immediately.
- The NIA website <a href="https://www.RadMD.com">https://www.RadMD.com</a> cannot be used for medically urgent or expedited prior authorization requests during business hours. Those requests must be processed by calling the NIA call center:
  - **1**-800-207-4209
- Turnaround time is not to exceed 72 calendar hours.

### Notification of Determination

#### **Authorization Notification**

- Validity Period Authorizations are valid for:
  - IPM
    - 60 days from date of service
  - Surgical
    - Inpatient 60 days from date of service
    - Outpatient SDC/Ambulatory 60 days from date of service
- The date of service that is selected at the time of the prior authorization request, will be used to determine the validity period. If the date of service changes, please contact NIA to update.

#### **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 re-reviews/reconsideration may be available with new or additional information.
- Timeframe for re-review/reconsideration is 30 days from the date of denial.
- 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 review IPM requests

## MSK Surgery Points – Lumbar/Cervical Spine Surgery



Inpatient and outpatient non-emergent surgeries



Spine Surgery is focused on lumbar and/or cervical spine surgeries



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



Reconstructive spinal deformity surgery does not require prior authorization. However, NIA will monitor provider use of CPT codes 22800-22819.

## MSK Surgery Points – Hip, Knee and Shoulder Surgery



Bilateral hip, knee, or shoulder 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.



Surgeries addressing the following are not included in the MSK program: trauma, amputation, fracture, active infection, pediatric conditions, congenital malformation, dysplasia (hip), palsy/plegia, osteochondritis dissecans (knee), osteotomy (knee), tumor, cyst, cancer, arthrodesis, girdle resection (hip), denervation (hip), joint dislocation, hemiarthroplasty (hip), hardware & foreign body removal.

## MSK Surgery Points – All Surgeries



Specialized Orthopedic Surgeons or Neurosurgeons will review surgery requests. Inpatient admissions will continue to be subject to concurrent review by Tufts Health Public Plan.



Any Tufts Health Public Plan prior authorization requirements for the facility or hospital admission must be obtained separately and only initiated after the surgery has met NIA's medical necessity criteria.



Authorizations are valid for 60 days from the date of service. NIA must be notified of any changes to the date of service..

### Provider Tools



## RadMD Website RadMD.com

#### **Available**



24/7 (except during maintenance, performed every third Friday of the month from 12 Am – 3 AM ET)



#### **Toll-Free Numbers**

1-800-207-4209



#### **Available**

Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM ET

- 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 Website

#### https://www.RadMD.com

#### RadMD Functionality varies by user:

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

#### Online Tools Available on RadMD

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



## RadMD New User Application Process - Ordering

Users are required to have their own separate usernames and passwords 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"
- 3. Complete the application and click "Submit".
- 4. Open email from NIA webmaster with new user password instructions

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

Offices that are both ordering and rendering procedures should request ordering provider access. This will allow you to request authorization on RadMD and see the status of 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.)
  - Application for a New Account
    Please fill out this form only for yourself. Shared accounts are not allowed.
    In order for your account to be activated, you must be able to receive emails from RadMDSupport@magellanhealth.com. Please check with your email administrator to ensure that emails from RadMDSupport@magellanhealth.com. Please check with your email administrator to ensure that emails from RadMDSupport@magellanhealth.com. Please check with your email administrator to ensure that emails from RadMDSupport@magellanhealth.com. Please check with your email administrator to ensure that emails from RadMDSupport@magellanhealth.com. Please check with your email administrator to ensure that emails administrator

## RadMD New User Application Process - Rendering

#### **IMPORTANT**

- Users are required to have their own separate username and password due to HIPAA regulations.
- Designate an "Administrator" for the facility who manages access for users.

#### **STEPS:**

- Click the "New User" button on the right side of the home page.
- 2. Select "Facility/office where procedures are performed"
- 3. Complete the application and click "Submit".
- 4. Open email from NIA webmaster with new user password instructions.

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

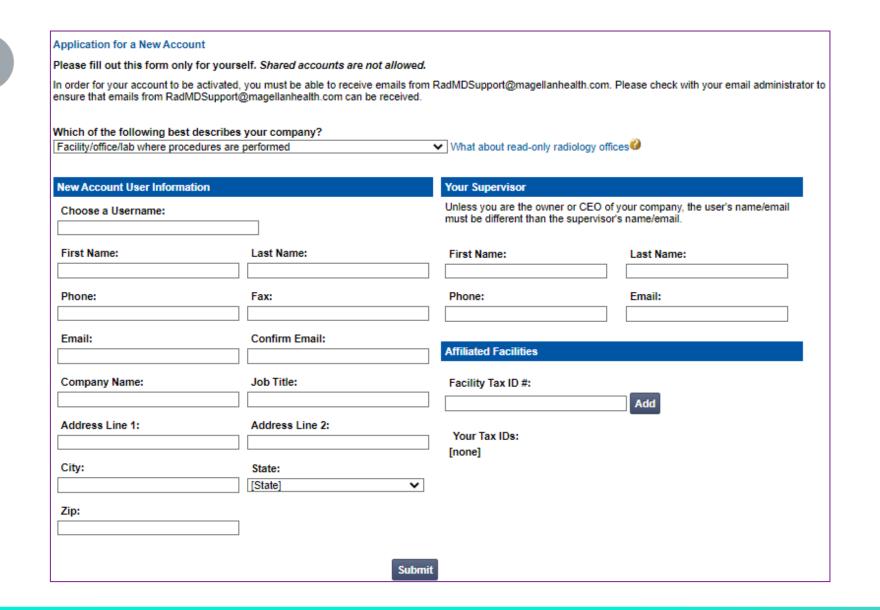
If multiple staff members entering authorizations need to view approved, pended, and in-review authorization requests, they will each need to complete and submit a new user application. The account administrator is responsible for granting rendering access for each employee.



-- Please Select an Appropriate Description -Physician's office that orders procedures

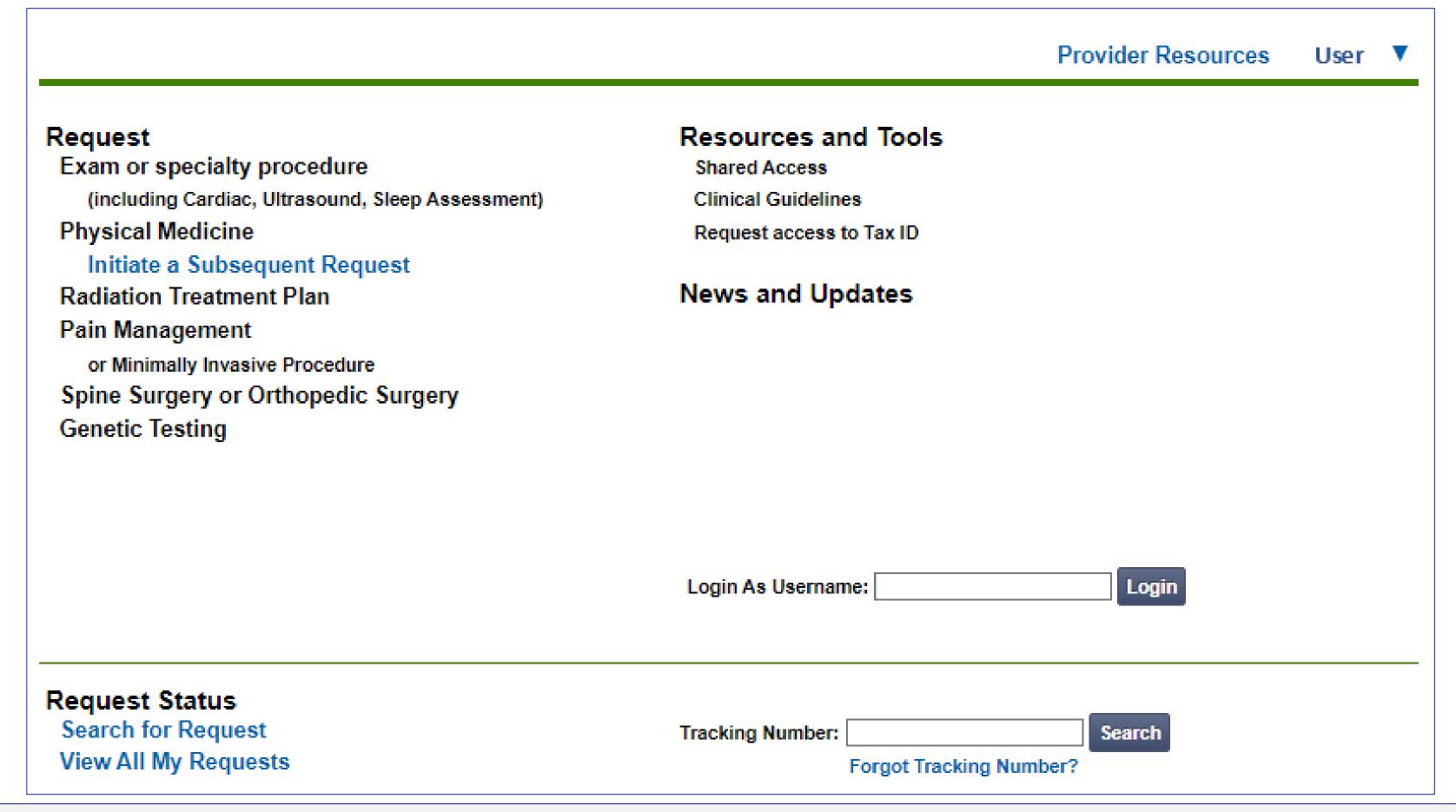
Facility/office where procedures are performed

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.)



### Shared Access

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.



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 <a href="RadMD.com">RadMD.com</a>, allowing them to communicate with members and facilitate treatment.

### When to Contact NIA

Initiating or checking the status of an authorization request	<ul> <li>Website:         <ul> <li><a href="https://www.RadMD.com">https://www.RadMD.com</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>Toll-free numbers:         <ul> <li>1-800-207-4209</li> </ul> </li> <li>Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System</li> </ul>
Initiating a Peer- to-Peer Consultation	<ul><li>Call: 1-800-207-4209</li></ul>
Provider Service Line	<ul><li>RadMDSupport@evolent.com</li><li>Call 1-800-327-0641</li></ul>
Provider Education requests or questions specific to NIA	<ul> <li>Seth Cohen PT, DPT         Senior Manager, Provider Relations         410-953-2418         <u>Seth.Cohen@evolent.com</u> </li> </ul>

### RadMD Demonstration

## Confidentiality Statement

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## Thanks!