

QUICK TIPS for ORDERING PHYSICIANS/PROVIDERS

IMAGING QUALITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The following process will become effective July 15, 2005.

Ordering physicians/providers need to call NIA before scheduling the imaging services below for Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield members.*

The notification requirement applies to these *non-emergent, outpatient* diagnostic imaging procedures:

- CT Scan
- MRI/MRA
- Nuclear Cardiology
- PET Scan

Notification Process

1. Call the NIA toll-free number: (866) 642-9708 before scheduling

To expedite the process, please have the following information ready before calling NIA:

- Name and office phone number of ordering physician/provider
- Member name and ID number
- Requested study
- Name and address of provider office or facility where the service will be performed
- Anticipated date of service (if known)
- Details justifying examination
 - ◆ Symptoms and their duration
 - ◆ Physical exam findings
 - ◆ Conservative treatment patient has already completed (i.e. physical therapy, chiropractic or osteopathic manipulation, hot pads, massage, ice packs, medications)
 - ◆ Preliminary procedures already completed (e.g. x-rays, CT's, lab work, ultrasound, scoped procedures, referrals to specialist, specialist evaluation)
 - ◆ Reason study is being requested (e.g. further evaluation, rule out a disorder)
- Please be prepared to fax the following information, if requested:
 - ◆ Clinical notes
 - ◆ Specialist reports/evaluation
 - ◆ X-ray reports
 - ◆ Ultrasound reports
 - ◆ Previous CT/MRI reports

2. *Note that the notification process applies to certain Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield plans. NIA will determine if notification applies to the member's plan. If it does, NIA will give the ordering physician/provider a notification number.
3. Please give the notification number to the rendering facility/provider when you call to schedule the services.
4. Please give the member a written confirmation of the scheduled service and notification number, if it is available at the time. We suggest that the information be provided to the member on a prescription blank.

Important Notes:

- It is the responsibility of the ordering physician/provider to complete the notification requirement.
- Services rendered in an **emergency room** or hospital **inpatient** setting, or in an **urgent care** setting at the time of the urgent care visit, are not subject to the notification requirement.