Process Added to Advanced Imaging Utilization Management Program

All Florida Blue and Florida Blue HMO (Health Options, Inc.) health plans require members to obtain preauthorization for non-emergency advanced imaging services or the services are not covered. Magellan Healthcare/National Imaging Associates, Inc. (NIA) manages the program on our behalf.

Effective December 1, 2018, we are adding a Clinical Validation of Records process for procedure codes that are part of the Advanced Imaging Utilization Management (UM) Program. As a result, you may receive more requests for supporting clinical information from Magellan Healthcare/NIA for your non-emergency advanced imaging authorization requests.

Magellan Healthcare/NIA will continue to work with you and your Florida Blue and Florida Blue HMO patients to help them maximize their benefits. We are adding a clinical record validation process to the program to ensure our members, your patients, receive appropriate, effective care.

What You Need to Know

- The process for submitting authorization requests for non-emergency advanced imaging services will not change. You should continue to submit authorization requests through Magellan Healthcare/NIA as you do today at radmd.com or by calling them toll-free at 866-326-6302. Reviews will be processed according to regulatory guidelines as they do today.

- What’s changing is that, starting December 1, 2018, Magellan Healthcare/NIA may request a review of additional supporting clinical records for certain types of advanced imaging services, such as:
  - Computed tomography (CT), computed tomography angiogram (CTA), magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), magnetic resonance angiogram (MRA) and positron emission tomography (PET) scans and nuclear medicine, including cardiovascular system procedures such as myocardial imaging, myocardial infusion studies, and cardiac blood pool advanced imaging services.
  - You can find specific procedure codes that are part of this program in the Utilization Management section of the Manual for Physicians and Providers at floridablue.com.

- If Magellan Healthcare/NIA determines that additional clinical information is required in order to complete an authorization request, they will send a fax to the referring or ordering provider with instructions.

- If you receive a request from Magellan Healthcare/NIA for medical records, you are required to fax them to Magellan Healthcare/NIA at the number on their fax request or upload them to their website at radmd.com. Magellan Healthcare/NIA will review the medical records on our behalf to determine medical necessity for a final decision.

For more information about our advanced imaging UM program, please visit the Manual for Physicians and Providers at floridablue.com.