



January 26, 2007

Dear Provider:

A prior authorization program for outpatient diagnostic imaging procedures will be implemented beginning March 1, 2007. Providers will have from February 1-28 to become familiar with the requirements of the program prior to the full implementation date of March 1, 2007. This correspondence serves as notice of changes in our Utilization Review Program process.

Effective March 1, 2007, National Imaging Associates, Inc., [d.b.a. Texas National Imaging Associates (TNIA)] will provide outpatient imaging management services for USABLE Life and USABLE Administrators groups who access the USABLE Life Connect PPO and USABLE PPO provider networks. USABLE Administrators groups elect to participate in the new prior authorization program and member ID cards will indicate participation in the program for those groups who choose to take part.

Under terms of the TNIA agreement, USABLE Life will retain ultimate responsibility and control over claims adjudication and all coverage policies and procedures. For USABLE Administrators groups, the Plan Administrator retains ultimate responsibility and control over claims adjudication. TNIA will manage outpatient imaging/radiology services.

**Prior authorization will be required for the following outpatient radiology procedures:**

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

It is important to note that ...

- It is the responsibility of the ordering physician to obtain authorization from TNIA prior to scheduling one of the above outpatient procedures.
- The participating imaging facility rendering the above services should verify that the necessary prior authorization has been obtained. Failure to do so may result in non-payment of your claim.
- Emergency room, observation department of a hospital and inpatient imaging procedures do not require prior authorization.

Enclosed is a Reference Guide with more detailed information, including prior authorization instructions and frequently asked questions. We appreciate your support and look forward to your assistance in assuring that our members receive high quality and clinically appropriate diagnostic imaging services.

Your attention to the enclosed information is greatly appreciated, as adherence to the new policies and procedures is required to ensure appropriate processing of claims.

Should you have questions, please contact your regional Network Development Representative or Customer Service at 1-800-519-2583.

Sincerely,

Nicola Patterson  
Vice President, Administration  
USABLE Life

Curtis Barnett  
Vice President, Operations  
USABLE Administrators

Enclosure