

Contracting & Payer Relations

Tufts Health Plan Update – Radiation Awareness Initiative

Tufts Health Plan is please to inform you that they will begin a Radiation Safety Awareness Initiative on March 1, 2009, in conjunction with National Imaging Associates (NIA), their nationally recognized radiology benefits manager. Tufts Health Plan is taking this proactive approach in order to improve patient safety and raise awareness regarding radiation exposure.

Beginning March 1, 2009, the ordering provider will be notified if the patient is identified as at risk when requesting preauthorization of imaging services by telephone or through NIA's provider Web site, www.radmd.com. At that time, the provider will be offered an NIA peer discussion to discuss the case with another physician. In addition, a provider alert letter will be sent via fax or mail with the authorization or denial letter.

Note: The patient's level of radiation exposure does **not** impact the preauthorization or decision-making process for requested imaging studies.

For more information on this initiative, visit www.tuftshealthplan.com/providers, or the NIA Web site at www.radmd.com.

* * * * *