



FROM



In keeping with our commitment of promoting continuous quality improvement for services provided to Western Sky Community Care and Ambetter from Western Sky Community Care members, Western Sky Community Care and Ambetter from Western Sky Community Care has entered into an agreement with <http://www.csmg-online.com/en/> National Imaging Associates, Inc. (NIA) to implement an Interventional Pain Management (IPM) program. This program includes prior authorization for non-emergent outpatient IPM procedures for Western Sky Community Care and Ambetter from Western Sky Community Care members. This decision is consistent with industry-wide efforts to ensure clinically appropriate quality of care and to manage the increasing utilization of these services.

Under terms of the agreement between Western Sky Community Care, Ambetter from Western Sky Community Care and NIA, Western Sky Community Care and Ambetter from Western Sky Community Care will oversee the IPM program and continue to be responsible for claims adjudication and medical policies. NIA will manage non-emergent outpatient IPM procedures through the existing contractual relationships with Western Sky Community Care.

Planned for a March 1, 2023, implementation, this correspondence serves as notice under your Participating Western Sky Community Care and Ambetter from Western Sky Community Care Provider Agreement of changes to the program.

Providers may begin contacting NIA on March 1, 2023, to seek prior authorization for procedures scheduled on or after March 1, 2023.

Prior authorization will be required for the following non-emergent outpatient IPM procedures:

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

KEY PROVISIONS:

- It is the responsibility of the ordering physician to obtain prior authorization for all IPM procedures outlined above
- The ordering physician must obtain prior authorization with NIA prior to performing the procedure

Services other than the IPM procedures outlined above will continue to follow Western Sky Community Care prior-authorization requirements.



FROM



western sky
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We appreciate your support and look forward to your assistance in ensuring that Western Sky Community Care and Ambetter from Western Sky Community Care members receive IPM procedures delivered in a quality, clinically appropriate fashion.

We will provide additional information as we get closer to the implementation date. Should you have questions at this time, please contact Western Sky Community Care Provider Services Department at 1-844-738-5019.