

Dear Provider,

Beginning July 1, 2021, Meridian is pleased to announce we are expanding our partnership with National Imaging Associates, Inc. (NIA) to provide utilization management for Interventional Pain Management (IPM), outpatient rehabilitative and habilitative physical medicine services for Meridian's membership. This program is consistent with industry-wide efforts ensuring that IPM and physical medicine services provided to our members are consistent with nationally recognized clinical guidelines. This expansion will apply to Meridian's product lines listed below:

- MeridianHealth – Medicaid
- WellCare – Medicare
- MeridianComplete – Medicare-Medicaid Plan (MMP)

Under terms of the agreement between Meridian and NIA, Meridian will oversee the IPM and physical medicine program, and continue to be responsible for claims adjudication and medical policies. NIA will manage non-emergent outpatient IPM procedures, outpatient rehabilitative and habilitative services through the existing contractual relationships with Meridian Health Plan.

Prior authorizations will be required for the following services:

Interventional Pain Management (IPM)

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

Physical Medicine Service \*

- Physical therapy services
- Occupational therapy services
- Speech therapy services (MeridianComplete – Medicare-Medicaid Plan (MMP) and WellCare – Medicare only)

*\*Authorization for physical medicine services is required after the first initial evaluation. All subsequent visits will require authorization through NIA.*

Services other than the procedures outlined above will continue to follow Meridian's prior authorization requirements.

Any services rendered on or after July 1, 2021 will require authorization. Prior authorization will be available beginning **June 21, 2021** for dates of service July 1, 2021 and beyond. Authorizations can be obtained through the website, **[www.RadMD.com](http://www.RadMD.com)** or by calling NIA's Call Center **866-842-1767**.

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.
- To obtain authorization, the provider should visit **www.RadMD.com** or call the NIA dedicated toll-free phone number 1-866-842-1767. Failure to do so may result in nonpayment of your claim.
- Please keep in mind you will need to ensure that the member's therapy benefit has not been exhausted prior to providing services, even if an "Approved Authorization" has been obtained. This can be accomplished by calling Meridian Health Plan Provider Services at **888-773-2647**.

We appreciate your support and look forward to your assistance in assuring that our members receive quality services delivered in a clinically appropriate manner.

We will provide additional information as we get closer to the implementation date. Should you have questions at this time, please contact Meridian Provider Services at **888-773-2647**.

Sincerely,

Meridian



## MeridianHealth Michigan Pain Management Program Provider Educational Webinars

In keeping with our commitment to promote continuous quality improvement for services provided to MeridianHealth of Michigan (Meridian) members, effective July 1, 2021, Meridian has entered into an agreement with National Imaging Associates, Inc. (NIA) to implement an Interventional Pain Management (IPM) program. This program includes prior authorization for non-emergent outpatient, interventional pain management services (IPM). This decision is consistent with industry-wide efforts to ensure clinically appropriate quality of care and to manage the increasing utilization of these services.

Meridian and NIA welcome providers to attend an upcoming provider education webinar on the NIA IPM Program prior authorization process. There will be several one hour webinars that will take place on the following dates. You only need to attend one of these educational sessions.

- **June 15, 2021** **8 a.m.**  
Register at the following address:
  - [http://bit.ly/NIAMeridianHealthMI\\_IPM\\_061521\\_8a](http://bit.ly/NIAMeridianHealthMI_IPM_061521_8a)
- **June 15, 2021** **12 p.m.**  
Register at the following address:
  - [http://bit.ly/NIAMeridianHealthMI\\_IPM\\_061521\\_12n](http://bit.ly/NIAMeridianHealthMI_IPM_061521_12n)
- **June 29, 2021** **8 a.m.**  
Register at the following address:
  - [http://bit.ly/NIAMeridianHealthMI\\_IPM\\_062921\\_8a](http://bit.ly/NIAMeridianHealthMI_IPM_062921_8a)
- **June 29, 2021** **12 p.m.**  
Register at the following address:
  - [http://bit.ly/NIAMeridianHealthMI\\_IPM\\_062921\\_12n](http://bit.ly/NIAMeridianHealthMI_IPM_062921_12n)

**It is recommended but not mandatory that you RSVP at least one week prior to the training that you plan to attend by registering for one of the education sessions above. You can either click on the registration link or type the URL address into your browser to register.**

You will receive a registration confirmation email from NIA for the webinar you selected. We recommend using a computer to view educational documents during the webinar if possible. To access the webinar by computer, please click on the link for the session you would like to attend or type the URL address into your browser. Please see call in instructions below, if you do not have computer access.

Meridian and NIA look forward to working with you to ensure that your Meridian members receive IPM services delivered in a quality, clinically appropriate fashion.



## Access Instructions

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You will need a computer with Internet access to view the education materials presented during the webinar. **Please attempt to sign in 15 minutes prior to the meeting start time.**

Telephone (Please use caution to dial number correctly.):

**646-558-8656**

**301-715-8592**

**Meeting ID for June 15, 2021 at 8 a.m.: ID# 939 8794 2612**

**Meeting ID for June 15, 2021 at 12 p.m.: ID# 984 1443 1650**

**Meeting ID for June 29, 2021 at 8 a.m.: ID# 928 3992 2914**

**Meeting ID for June 29, 2021 at 12 p.m.: ID# 942 0419 0088**

All Meridian-approved training/education materials are posted on the NIA website, **www.RadMD.com**. For new users to access these web-based documents, a RadMD account ID and password must be created.

To get started, simply go to **www.RadMD.com**, click the New User button, select “Physician’s office that orders procedures” and submit a “RadMD Application for New Account.” Once the application has been processed and a password link delivered by NIA via email, you will then be invited to create a new password. Links to the approved training/education documents will be among the RadMD Menu Options available after logging into the website.



## Meridian of Michigan Physical Medicine Program Provider Education Webinars

Beginning July 1, 2021, Meridian of Michigan (Meridian) is pleased to announce we are expanding our partnership with National Imaging Associates, Inc. (NIA) to provide utilization management for outpatient rehabilitative and habilitative physical medicine services on behalf of Meridian members. This program is consistent with industry-wide efforts ensuring that physical medicine services provided to our members are consistent with nationally recognized clinical guidelines.

Services managed and authorized by NIA will include outpatient:

- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Therapy

Meridian and NIA welcome providers to attend an upcoming provider education webinar on the NIA Physical Medicine Program prior authorization process. There will be several one-hour webinars that will take place on the following dates. You will only need to attend one of the following educational sessions:

- **June 16, 2021** **8 a.m.**  
Register at the following address:
  - [http://bit.ly/NIAMeridianHealthMI\\_PM\\_061621\\_8a](http://bit.ly/NIAMeridianHealthMI_PM_061621_8a)
- **June 16, 2021** **12 p.m.**  
Register at the following address:
  - [http://bit.ly/NIAMeridianHealthMI\\_PM\\_061621\\_12n](http://bit.ly/NIAMeridianHealthMI_PM_061621_12n)
- **June 28, 2021** **8 a.m.**  
Register at the following address:
  - [http://bit.ly/NIAMeridianHealthMI\\_PM\\_062821\\_8a](http://bit.ly/NIAMeridianHealthMI_PM_062821_8a)
- **June 28, 2021** **12 p.m.**  
Register at the following address:
  - [http://bit.ly/NIAMeridianHealthMI\\_PM\\_062821\\_12n](http://bit.ly/NIAMeridianHealthMI_PM_062821_12n)

**It is recommended but not mandatory that you RSVP at least one week prior to the training that you plan to attend by registering for one of the education sessions above. You can either click on the registration link or type the URL address into your browser to register.**

You will receive a registration confirmation email from NIA for the webinar you selected. We recommend using a computer to view educational documents during the webinar if possible. To access the webinar by computer, please click on the link for the session you would like to attend or type the

URL address into your browser. Please see call in instructions below, if you do not have computer access.

Meridian and NIA look forward to working with you to ensure that your Meridian members receive therapy services delivered in a quality, clinically appropriate fashion.

### Access Instructions

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You will need a computer with Internet access to view the education materials presented during the Webinar. **Please attempt to sign in 15 minutes prior to the meeting start time.**

Telephone (Please use caution to dial number correctly.):

**646-558-8656**

**301-715-8592**

<b>Meeting ID for June 16, 2021 at 8 a.m.:</b>	<b>ID# 967 8388 1904</b>
<b>Meeting ID for June 16, 2021 at 12 p.m.:</b>	<b>ID# 958 3003 2439</b>
<b>Meeting ID for June 28, 2021 at 8 a.m.:</b>	<b>ID# 912 0517 5615</b>
<b>Meeting ID for June 28, 2021 at 12 p.m.:</b>	<b>ID# 982 3645 1623</b>

All Meridian-approved training/education materials are posted on the NIA website, **www.RadMD.com**. For new users to access these web-based documents, a RadMD account ID and password must be created.

To get started, simply go to **www.RadMD.com**, click the New User button, select “Physical Medicine Practitioner” and submit a “RadMD Application for New Account”. Once the application has been processed and a password link delivered by NIA via e-mail, you will then be invited to create a new password. Links to the approved training/education documents will be among the RadMD Menu Options available after logging into the website.