

# M.D.IPA and Optimum Choice Radiology Services Prior Authorization Quick Reference Guide

Please use this quick reference guide when requesting prior authorization for members with M.D.IPA and Optimum Choice health benefit plans.

## Prior Authorization Requirements

We require prior authorization for MRI, Nuclear Med/SPECT and CT scan procedures. For more information, visit [UHCprovider.com](http://UHCprovider.com) > **Prior Authorization and Notification Resources** > [Advance Notification and Plan Requirement Resources](#).

## Submitting a Prior Authorization Request

You can submit prior authorization requests online using the Prior Authorization and Notification tool on Link. Sign in to Link by going to [UHCprovider.com](http://UHCprovider.com) and clicking on the Link button in the top right corner. Then, select the Prior Authorization and Notification tile on your Link dashboard. Learn more at [UHCprovider.com/paan](http://UHCprovider.com/paan).

You can also submit your request by phone using the telephone number provided on the Member's health care ID card.

## What to Include

When submitting your prior authorization request, please enter the appropriate CPT® code(s) and include the following information:

- History and physical
- Neurological exam, if indicated
- Any prior imaging studies
- Prior conservative management

## Radiology Services Requiring Prior Authorization

MRI Description	Nuclear Medicine – SPECT	CT Scan Description
MRI Lower Extremity	Liver Imaging (3D)	CT Brain
MRI Lower Extremity Joint (ankle, knee)	Liver Imaging with Flow	CT Lower extremity
MRI Upper Extremity	Bone Imaging (3D)	CT Upper extremity
MRI Upper Ext Joint (elbow, wrist, shoulder)	HT Muscle Image SPECT, Sing	CT Cervical Spine
MRI Cervical Spine	HT Muscle Image SPECT, Mult.	CT Thoracic Spine
MRI Lumbar Spine	HT Muscle Image Planar, Sing	CT Lumbar Spine
MRI Thoracic Spine	HT Muscle Image Planar, Mult.	CT Chest
MRI Pelvis (including the hip)	Heart Imaging, SPECT	CT Abdomen
MRI Temporal Mandibular Joint	Brain Imaging (3D)	CT Pelvis

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MRI Description	Nuclear Medicine – SPECT	CT Scan Description
MRI Brain	Cerebrospinal Fluid Scan	CT Abdomen and Pelvis
MRI Heart	Kidney Imaging (3D)	CT Colonography (virtual colonoscopy)
MRI Unlisted Procedure (included description)	Tumor Imaging (3D)	CT Chest Angiography
	Nuclear Localization/Abscess	CT Heart, Coronary Arteries, and Cardiac Structures
		Computer aided reading of a MRI

**Contact**

If you have questions, please call Provider Services at the phone number listed on the member’s health care ID card.

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