

Radiology initiative

Summary of change: Effective December 1, 2017, AIM Specialty Health® (AIM) will require a medical necessity review of the requested level of care for CT imaging and MRI. A new clinical level of care guideline will apply to the review process for dates of service beginning on December 1, 2017. The review will be administered by AIM and applies to all Amerigroup Community Care members enrolled in Medicaid.

What is the impact of this change?

Beginning with dates of service on or after December 1, 2017:

- AIM will evaluate the clinical criteria to determine if the imaging service requires a hospital-based outpatient setting (offers a higher intensity of service resources) or a free-standing imaging center (clinically appropriate and available alternative).
- When providers select a hospital-based outpatient facility as the level of care on the AIM provider website, a list of alternate free-standing imaging centers will be made available. If providers still select the hospital-based outpatient facility, they will be prompted to indicate the reason that this location is medically necessary.
- If a request for a hospital-based level of care does not meet medical necessity criteria upon review by a physician, the request will not be approved. We encourage you to discuss the alternate sites with the member.

To view the new clinical level of care guideline, visit:

<https://providers.amerigroup.com/pages/nj-2012.aspx> > Provider Resources & Documents > Quick Tools > Medical Policies > New Jersey > Amerigroup Medical Policy and Clinical UM Guideline subsidiary website > UM Guidelines > By Category > Medicine > CG-Med-55 Level of Care: Advanced Radiologic Imaging.

Physicians will continue to request authorization for MRI and CT scans in one of several ways:

- Access AIM **ProviderPortal**_{SM} directly at <https://providerportal.com>. Online access is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to process orders in real time and is the fastest and most convenient way to request authorization.
- Access AIM via the Availity Portal at <https://www.availity.com>.
- Call the AIM Contact Center toll free at 1-800-714-0040.

Please note:

- Fax requests will not be accepted.
- Level of care review doesn't apply to requests for review as part of inpatient stay.

What is OptiNet?

OptiNet is a proprietary, multifaceted program designed to provide health plans with information on outpatient imaging providers. It will collect modality-specific data from providers who render MRI and CT imaging services. Amerigroup will utilize the AIM OptiNet

The information in this update may be an update or change to your provider manual. Find the most current manual at:
<https://providers.amerigroup.com>

provider website in conjunction with this new level of care program. Areas of assessment include facility specifications, technologist and physician qualifications, accreditation, equipment, and place of service ID.

Prior to the effective date of December 1, 2017, advanced imaging providers should register their imaging facility through <https://providerportal.com> and follow the OptiNet links. If you have any questions regarding OptiNet registration, please contact the AIM Contact Center at 1-800-714-0040.