

# **Evolent Health to Manage Services for Neighborhood**

### February 1, 2024

Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island (Neighborhood) is excited to announce a partnership with Evolent Health (Evolent), parent company of National Imaging Associates, Inc., (NIA) to implement two new medical programs focused on advanced imaging and physical medicine. Effective **April 1, 2024**, Evolent will manage all services within those programs - Neighborhood will continue to oversee claims adjudication.

This collaboration is an example of Neighborhood's ongoing commitment to promote continuous quality improvement for member services and ensure clinically appropriate care.

Once implemented, all services under Evolent's solutions will require prior authorization including nonemergent, advanced, and outpatient imaging; and outpatient rehabilitative and habilitative physical medicine services.

As of **April 1, 2024**, Neighborhood will end its partnership with eviCore Healthcare (eviCore) which currently provides utilization management of radiology services for Medicaid, Commercial, and INTEGRITY (MMP) members. Authorizations for radiology services granted by eviCore **will remain active until the approved authorization end date.** 

## **Impacted Lines of Business**

Evolent's solutions will impact different Neighborhood lines of business:

- Advanced imaging (All lines of business)
- Physical medicine (Medicaid and Commercial)

#### **Impacted Services**

Beginning April 1, 2024, the following advanced imaging services will require prior authorization:

- Radiology
  - o MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging)
  - MRA (Magnetic Resonance Angiography)
  - o CT/CTA (Computed Tomography)
  - PET (Positron Emission Tomography)

- Radiology Cardiology Focus
  - CCTA (Coronary Computed Tomography Angiography)
  - Nuclear Stress (Myocardial Perfusion Imaging (MPI)
  - o MUGA Scan

Beginning April 15, 2024, the following advanced imaging and physical medicine services will also require prior authorization. Neighborhood recommends providers initiate these requests beginning on April 1, 2024.

- Radiology Cardiology Focus
  - Stress Echocardiography
  - o Echocardiography

- Physical Medicine
  - Physical Therapy
  - o Occupational Therapy
  - Speech Therapy

Note: Effective April 1, 2024, Neighborhood's payment policies will be updated to align with the changes noted above. New clinical medical policies will also be available.

#### **Evolent Online Portal**

Beginning **February 1, 2024**, providers will request authorization for advanced imaging and physical medicine services using Evolent's online portal. Providers can request access to the online portal by visiting Evolent's website and <u>completing the registration process</u>. Although access can be requested, providers will not be able to submit prior authorization requests until **April 1, 2024**. Neighborhood encourages all providers to become familiar with the website.

Before rendering any services, providers should note:

- Ordering or rendering providers are responsible for obtaining authorization prior to rendering advanced imaging and cardiac services or physical medicine treatment.
- Providers rendering any of the services listed above should verify that the necessary authorization has been obtained by <u>signing in on Evolent's website</u> or calling Evolent at 1-877-469-7949. Failure to do so may result in non-payment of claims.
- Emergency room, observation, and inpatient imaging procedures do not require authorization through Evolent.

## **Provider Support**

Please <u>click here</u> for additional information on advanced imaging and physical medicine services including:

- Frequently asked questions
- Quick reference guide
- Utilization review matrix
- Provider education presentation
- Provider education webinars:
  - o Radiology: March 19, March 27, and April 4, 2024
  - o Physical Medicine: March 27, March 29, and April 4, 2024

Neighborhood appreciates your continued commitment to providing quality care to our members. If you have any questions regarding this notification, please contact Provider Services at 1-800-963-1001.