

Safety with Imaging

The use of high-tech diagnostic imaging is increasing, yet experts have found that many do not add information to improve patient diagnosis and treatment, and sometimes the quality of lab work is poor. Recent news accounts about a study that shows the potential for exposure to high radiation with full-body computed tomography (CT) scans have intensified the debate about the overuse of medical scans.

To help APWU Health Plan members receive the best help with a diagnosis and ensure that imaging meets specific quality standards, the Health Plan requires precertification of certain outpatient radiology/imaging. The **outpatient** imaging procedures that require precertification are: Computerized Axial Tomography (CAT/CT), Magnetic Resonance Imaging and Angiography (MRI/MRA), Nuclear Cardiology (NC) and Positron Emission Tomography (PET).

Before scheduling these procedures, ask your physician to call the Health Plan's radiology management precertification vendor, MedSolutions, at 888/693-3298. Precertifying outpatient high-tech imaging provides added radiology management expertise and helps avoid delays in processing your claim.