

MRI SCANS—BACK

Revised 3/9/06

The PA Nurse may approve if any one of the following guidelines have been met:

- Patient has a history of cancer
- Documented unexplained weight loss
- Documented unexplained fever or concern for infectious process
- Patient has a history of IV drug abuse
- Patient has an elevated ESR
- Patient has bladder, bowel, or sexual function defects
- There is a need to rule out fracture with negative plain films
- For acute back pain (less than 6 weeks duration), physical exam demonstrates clear neurologic abnormalities involving sensory, motor, or DTR's
- For chronic back pain (greater than 6 weeks duration), patient has undergone 6 weeks of conservative management and has not improved.

If the above criteria are not met, the request must be reviewed by the Medical Director.

References: See attached "Up To Date" for literature review.

Approved by:

Clinical and Service Quality Improvement Committee (CSQIC) Date: 3/9/06

Approved by:

Rene Bartos, MD/Paula Olen-Mikrut, MD

Date: 3/9/06