



Main Office
3346 **Lennon Road, Flint** MI 48507
810.732.1919 PHONE | 810.732.1945 FAX

Lennon Rd, Flint ■ **Villa Linde, Flint** ■ **Fenton** ■ **Grand Blanc**
Burton ■ **Davison** ■ **Lapeer** ■ **Novi** ■ **Royal Oak** ■ **Southgate**
www.rmipc.net

Good Day,

Regional Medical Imaging wants to inform you about a very important topic: **Clinical Decision Support (CDS)**. Please carefully read this letter to understand how CDS is used to ensure appropriate imaging for your Medicare patients.

What is Clinical Decision Support (CDS)?

The *2014 Protecting Access to Medicare Act (PAMA)* requires you to **consult appropriate use criteria (AUC) before ordering advanced diagnostic imaging (CT, MR, Nuclear, PET) for all Medicare Part B patients**. CDS is a means of meeting AUC and reducing inappropriate imaging ordering. This promotes patient safety and reduces costs.

How RMI Helps You

RMI is providing free connectivity to **CareSelect®**, a web-based CDS tool that helps you select the right imaging study based on clinical indicators. With a few quick steps, CareSelect provides a Decision Support Number (DSN). That number confirms your imaging choice meets AUC. The DSN must be placed on the patient's order.

IMPORTANT: Without the DSN, we cannot provide advanced imaging for your Medicare patient

When is this Happening?

As of **January 1, 2020**, you must use CDS when ordering advanced imaging for Medicare patients.

Getting Started

Call your RMI Physician Liaison to set up CareSelect CDS.

Genesee & Lapeer Counties:	Rich	810-223-2759
Mid- and north Metro Detroit:	David	586-822-4073
South Metro and Downriver:	Jack	313-310-8958

If you have additional questions or concerns, you can always call us for assistance at **810-244-7100**.

Thank you in advance for helping us provide the best imaging studies possible for our Medicare population. We look forward to working with you.

The Physicians and Staff of
Regional Medical Imaging



Main Office
3346 **Lennon Road, Flint** MI 48507
810.732.1919 PHONE | 810.732.1945 FAX

Lennon Rd, Flint ■ **Villa Linde, Flint** ■ **Fenton** ■ **Grand Blanc**
Burton ■ **Davison** ■ **Lapeer** ■ **Novi** ■ **Royal Oak** ■ **Southgate**
www.rmipc.net

Important Reminder Letter!

Using CDS when ordering imaging for Medicare patients

This is the second of three communications we are sending regarding **Clinical Decision Support (CDS)**. Please *carefully* read the information below:

- You must consult a CDS tool *before* ordering advanced imaging for Medicare patients.
- Implementation deadline: January 1, 2020.
- Advanced Imaging is CT, MR, Nuclear, PET studies.
- ALL imaging providers and their referring physicians must follow this rule.
- RMI offers **CareSelect**[®], a web-based CDS tool. Zero cost to you.
- CareSelect helps you choose appropriate imaging studies based on clinical indicators.
 - It provides a “Decision Support Number” (DSN).
 - DSN must be placed on the order form for imaging.
 - Imaging centers cannot obtain the DSN. It must come from the referring physician.
- RMI cannot conduct advanced imaging of Medicare patients without the DSN.
- Patients arriving without a DSN will be delayed until we get the DSN from you, or they may need to be rescheduled.
- Call your RMI Physician Liaison (Rich, David, or Jack) to get started with CareSelect.

Genesee & Lapeer Counties: Rich 810-223-2759
Mid- and north Metro Detroit: David 586-822-4073
South Metro and Downriver: Jack 313-310-8958

Thank you for your careful attention to this new requirement.

The Physicians and Staff of
Regional Medical Imaging



Main Office
3346 **Lennon Road, Flint** MI 48507
810.732.1919 PHONE | 810.732.1945 FAX

**Lennon Rd, Flint ■ Villa Linde, Flint ■ Fenton ■ Grand Blanc
Burton ■ Davison ■ Lapeer ■ Novi ■ Royal Oak ■ Southgate**
www.rmipc.net

Clinical Decision Support Q & A

In our prior two communications, we reminded you of the upcoming deadline for using Clinical Decision Support when ordering advanced imaging for Medicare patients. This letter reiterates some facts in a Q&A format.

What is Clinical Decision Support?

It is a general term for a mechanism or tool (usually a cloud-based application) that guides a physician when selecting an imaging study. It is intended for use when ordering advanced imaging (CT, MR, Nuclear, and PET) for Medicare patients only.

So it does not apply to Medicare patients who need mammograms, x-rays, or interventional procedures (for example)? No, the rule for consulting CDS does not apply in such cases.

Who mandated this and Why?

The Federal Government via the *2014 Protecting Access to Medicare Act (PAMA)*. The rule is intended to enhance patient safety and reduce costs via Appropriate Use Criteria (AUC).

What is a Decision Support Number (DSN)? A decision support number is provided by a CDS tool once the appropriate imaging study is selected. That number must be written on the imaging order form.

Is CDS required? Yes. January 1, 2020 will begin a one-year training period, allowing physicians and imaging centers to learn the process and train staff. Beginning Jan. 1, 2021, CDS will be fully implemented. Fines and fees will be charged to the imaging centers that bill advanced imaging to Medicare without a DSN.

Will this significantly slow down my patient flow? As with any new tool and requirement, it may take some time to get used to using it. However, CDS imaging applications are generally simple to use. For example, CareSelect® (see below) has a few very quick steps to produce a DSN.

Will I have a penalty for not writing a DSN on the order form? If the DSN is not placed on the order form, it will delay imaging and may require rescheduling the patient. We will contact you for a DSN in order to image your patient. Per the law, imaging centers cannot obtain a DSN for you.

What is CareSelect®? CareSelect is a free cloud-based CDS tool RMI is recommending to our referring physicians.

Is CareSelect a clinical assessment tool? No, it does not provide assessment assistance.

How does it work? Search by symptoms or recommended study. Then, input the clinical indicators and select a service most appropriate for the patient condition. The most recommended study is highlighted in green, with other choices in yellow or red.

Why is RMI recommending CareSelect? It ensures your Medicare patients are seen in a timely fashion for advanced imaging. CareSelect is an easy-to-use, minimal-step system to obtain a DSN quickly.

How do I get started using CareSelect? Please call your RMI Physician Liaison Jack (313-310-8958), David (586-822-4073), or Rich (810-223-2759).

What if I get stuck using CareSelect? There is support available. Call 810-244-7100 and our team will be able to remotely connect to your computer and help walk you through any issues. Please keep in mind, they cannot assist with clinical assessment.