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January 1, 2011

Dear physicians and clinical colleagues,

We are writing to inform you of changes we are making here at Professional Imaging. We have always prided ourselves on the thorough Dysphagia Consultation including MBSS provided to your patients at nursing homes, assisted living facilities or their primary residence. Our standard of care has always been a comprehensive Dysphagia consult with Modified Barium Swallow, esophageal assessment, vocal cord closure assessment, and thorough physician evaluation, addressing alimentation, medications, patient co-morbidities, and patient and family concerns regarding feeding and quality of life decisions affecting the swallow.

Due to recent requirements of our local Medicare carrier and some insurance companies, you must now document specifically the level of assessment you are requesting for your patient as well as the medical necessity.

Please refer to Education Guidelines for Doctor's Orders in Effect Dec 6, 2010 for levels of assessment as well as examples of orders.

Thank you for your assistance and patience in this ever changing time in healthcare.

Sincerely,

Nathan Baumer, Medical Director and M.D.

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