



January 18, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

Revised Policy Effective: Immediately

Policy change in regards to Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) of the Lumbar Spine With and/or Without Contrast. This change will affect both interpreting radiologists and performing technologists.

In patients with a current diagnosis, a follow-up diagnosis, or any history of:

- Vertebral Diskitis
- Osteomyelitis

A "Diffusion" scan should be performed, in addition to the standard imaging sequences. Diffusion imaging improves differentiation of infectious from degenerative changes of the spine.

- It is possible that additional scan time will be necessary contingent upon the amount of levels being evaluated.

To continue to provide the utmost care for our patients, please apply these new requirements to your workflow. Feel free to contact me or Medical Imaging Associates staff with any additional questions or concerns.

Thanks in Advance for Your Cooperation,

John J. Strobel M.D., President
Medical Imaging Associates of Idaho Falls