



Referral/Authorization Decision Support (RADS) Tool Quick Reference Guide

For TRICARE West Region Beneficiaries

Key Points

- Navigating to the Referral/Authorization Decision Support (RADS) Tool
- Using the Referral/Authorization Decision Support (RADS) Tool

Introduction

This guide will help you understand how to use the TRICARE Referral/Authorization Decision Support (RADS) tool. TRICARE beneficiaries can use the RADS tool to determine if services are a covered benefit. They can also use it to find out if they need a primary care manager referral or a prior authorization. In addition, they can learn if they require Medical Necessity Review by TriWest clinicians. TRICARE providers can also access the RADS tool on their portal to obtain the same assistance.

The following steps will guide you on how to use the RADS tool.



Referral/Authorization Decision Support (RADS) Tool

You can use the Referral/Authorization Decision Support (RADS) Tool on the Beneficiary Portal.

To navigate to the RADS Tool:

1. Go to the [secure, self-service West Region beneficiary portal](#).
2. In the “Referrals / Authorizations” section on the beneficiary portal dashboard, select **View All Referrals**.



3. Select **Referral & Authorizations Decision Support (RADS)** to access this tool.





4. The RADS Tool displays.

Home > Referrals/Authorizations > Referral / Authorization Decision Support (RADS) Tool

Referral / Authorization Decision Support (RADS) Tool

The RADS tool can be utilized to identify if healthcare services are a TRICARE benefit; require a Primary Care Manager referral; require a prior authorization and medical necessity review. The tool indicates when to send requests and/or appropriate documentation to TriWest for processing.

Beneficiary's (Patient) Plan Type

Select One

i The beneficiary refers to the actual patient potentially receiving care. Select that beneficiary's TRICARE plan.

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To use the RADS Tool:

1. Input the beneficiary's healthcare service information, following the prompts.
2. Once you have completed all required fields, you will receive an output.
Note: You can print your RADS results for your records.

Referral / Authorization Decision Support (RADS) Tool

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1

Beneficiary's (Patient) Plan Type

Tricare Prime

Is the beneficiary an active duty service member (ADSM)?

Yes No

Is the servicing provider network or non-network?

In Network Non-Network

Place of service?

InPatient OutPatient

What is the Service Type?

Specially Care

2

Approval Required

A referral is required for this service.

Military hospitals, clinics, approved specialists, and civilian primary care providers can submit specialist referral requests to TriWest.

The Referral and Authorization Decision Support Tool (RADS) identifies covered TRICARE benefit and prior authorization and referral requirements. **Providers may submit Auth and Referral requests through the secure portal- Availity TriWest TRICARE Payer Space.**

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