



2009

SHOULDER MRI CRITERIA (MEDICARE)

Usual Indicators:

Shoulder pain more than 3 months with decreased range of motion *AND* at least **TWO** of the following:

- Unresolved pain when arm is overhead; **OR**
- Increased pain at night; **OR**
- Weakness of abductor muscle or muscle atrophy; **OR**
- Chronic pain/instability or dislocation; **OR**
- Positive impingement test; **OR**
- Injection decreases pain temporarily; **OR**
- Acromial spur development; **OR**
- Severe trauma with normal plain x-ray; **OR**
- Position of known fracture/subluxation; **OR**
- Rotator cuff tear – conservative therapy is indicated for at least 4-6 weeks for tendonitis, bursitis or suspected tears.