



**2009**

## **THORACIC SPINE MRI CRITERIA (MEDICARE)**

Usually not indicated for uncomplicated pain or for patients who have not tried and failed 4 weeks or more of supervised physical therapy

Thoracic Spine MRI is a covered benefit when **ONE** of the following criteria is met:

- Severe trauma with suspected cord injury; **OR**
- Myelopathy; **OR**
- Tumor spread; **OR**
- Suspected/known inflammatory arthritis, osteomyelitis, spondylitis, abscess or dicitis