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GUIDELINES FOR REFERRALS

Thank you for your interest in referring your patient to Athens Spine Center. This practice was established to address spine related problems primarily from an interventional and procedural approach. Therefore, we have recommended some guidelines to ensure that a referral is appropriate for Athens Spine Center and also to ensure that the services we offer are appropriate for your patient.

Please review the following requirements that we suggest *prior* to the acceptance of a referral.

- A recent neurosurgical or a neurological evaluation in the recent past to make certain your patient is an appropriate candidate for a spinal procedure.
- A recent MRI or CT scan with findings appropriate for the consideration of a spinal procedure.
- If your patient has a history of anxiety and/or depression or if on medications for these disorders, it would be beneficial to make us aware of this so that a psychological evaluation can be requested if appropriate.

We will be happy to review your patient's records using these guidelines for consideration of your referral and will contact your office if the patient is accepted.

PLEASE NOTE: If referral of your patient is appropriate and accepted, the referring physician should assume that patients are accepted for ***procedural treatment only***. Athens Spine Center **MAY** take over narcotics management while the patient is under treatment. However, at the end of the procedural therapy, your patient will be referred back to you, as the primary referring physician, along with our recommendations for narcotic and medication management.

Thank you for your cooperation in the effort to ensure that our services are appropriate for your patient.