

Case Number:	CM13-0006414		
Date Assigned:	08/27/2013	Date of Injury:	09/23/2011
Decision Date:	01/13/2014	UR Denial Date:	07/23/2013
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	08/02/2013

HOW THE IMR FINAL DETERMINATION WAS MADE

MAXIMUS Federal Services sent the complete case file to a physician reviewer. He/she has no affiliation with the employer, employee, providers or the claims administrator. The physician reviewer is Board Certified in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, has a subspecialty in and is licensed to practice in California. He/she has been in active clinical practice for more than five years and is currently working at least 24 hours a week in active practice. The physician reviewer was selected based on his/her clinical experience, education, background, and expertise in the same or similar specialties that evaluate and/or treat the medical condition and disputed items/services.

CLINICAL CASE SUMMARY

The expert reviewer developed the following clinical case summary based on a review of the case file, including all medical records:

Patient with injury from 9/23/11 has a diagnosis of patella-femoral pain syndrome, with chondromalacia. Treater's note from 5/24/13 states that the patient did fairly well with Euflexxa injections. X-rays show some subsclerotic changes of the patella. 8/22/13 notes recommend arthroscopic lateral release of right knee. 7/1/13 report by [REDACTED] notes that the patient experienced "very limited and very temporary improvement from the prior Euflexxa injections that he had in Oct 2012". [REDACTED] did not feel that the patient would be a candidate for repeat injection.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

The Final Determination was based on decisions for the disputed items/services set forth below:

04YH: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation ODG Treatment Guidelines.

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG).

Decision rationale: Euflexxa or hyaluronic acid injections are not recommended for chondromalacia patellae which this patient suffers from. Furthermore, the patient had the injection in Oct. 2012 with very limited benefit. For repeat injections, documented significant

improvement of symptoms for 6 months or more is required. MTUS and ACOEM guidelines do not discuss this injection.