

Case Number:	CM13-0025156		
Date Assigned:	11/20/2013	Date of Injury:	08/24/2011
Decision Date:	02/04/2014	UR Denial Date:	09/04/2013
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	09/16/2013

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 expert reviewer is Licensed in Podiatric Surgery and is licensed to practice in New York. 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 expert 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. He/she is familiar with governing laws and regulations, including the strength of evidence hierarchy that applies to Independent Medical Review determinations.

CLINICAL CASE SUMMARY

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

The original date of injury is 8-24-2011. Patient suffered a right foot crush injury with fracture. She sustained bone and soft tissue injuries which ended up in amputation of toes. As of 4-11-2013 patient was still having right foot pain, stating that her foot was "not improving." The exam that day reveals tenderness to the right foot, pain with motion, full range of motion with pain. A diagnosis of right foot fracture was made. Referral to orthopedics was made. On 4-25-2013 the patient was re evaluated and noted to have pain with motion, abnormal gait, numbness from the 3rd toe to the great toe and entire top of foot. The exam on 6-17-2013 is noted below. Patient was evaluated by a podiatrist on 8-18-2013 for continued right foot pain. The MRI results are noted below. The podiatrist's diagnoses include: In light of the podiatry exam, the podiatrist feels that the best course of action is surgical intervention. He recommends ORIF of second metatarsal, repair of 3rd toe, separation of the webbing due to the scar tissue at the 3rd and 4th innerspace. On 8-22-2013 the exam and x ray read reveal continued dislocation of the 2nd metatarsal displaced laterally and plantarly and continued 3rd toe dislocation fracture. The physical exam reveals significant pain to the right foot up to a level 8/10 with point tenderness to the right foot in the symptomatic areas.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Open Reduction and Internal Fixation of R-2nd Metatarsal and 3rd toe with removal of webbing between 3rd and 4th toe: Overturned

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 14 Ankle and Foot Complaints Page(s): Surgical Considerations.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 14 Ankle and Foot Complaints Page(s): 374.

Decision rationale: After careful review of the enclosed information and the MTUS coverage criteria for this case, the open reduction and Internal fixation of R-2nd metatarsal and 3rd toe with removal of webbing between 3rd and 4th toe is reasonable and medically necessary.