

Case Number:	CM13-0028156		
Date Assigned:	12/04/2013	Date of Injury:	12/06/2012
Decision Date:	01/28/2014	UR Denial Date:	09/19/2013
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	09/23/2013

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 Orthopedic Surgery, and is licensed to practice in Connecticut, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania. 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. 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:

██████████ is a 37-year-old who sustained an injury on 12/06/12 tripping in the parking lot injuring her right knee and left ankle.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Home H-wave device; one month home use evaluation: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines H-wave stimulation.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines H-wave stimulation Page(s): 118.

Decision rationale: An H wave device has been requested, but cannot be supported based on the medical records reviewed. There is no documentation to support the efficacy of utilizing a home H wave unit as a standard adjunctive treatment for the knee or ankle pain in the peer review literature. It is for this reason, H wave would be considered experimental and investigational.