

<b>Case Number:</b>	CM13-0028302		
<b>Date Assigned:</b>	11/27/2013	<b>Date of Injury:</b>	11/30/2011
<b>Decision Date:</b>	01/22/2014	<b>UR Denial Date:</b>	05/29/2013
<b>Priority:</b>	Standard	<b>Application Received:</b>	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 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. 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:

This is the case of a 39-year-old with a date of injury of November 2011. The available records outline a diagnosis of a lateral epicondylitis with a variety of conservative treatments provided. The available records would suggest the use of medications, acupuncture, physical therapy, splintage, and a previous platelet rich plasma (PRP) injection.

### IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

**two PRP injections to the right elbow:** Upheld

**Claims Administrator guideline:** The Claims Administrator did not cite any medical evidence for its decision.

**MAXIMUS guideline:** Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 10 Elbow Disorders (Revised 2007) Page(s): 589.

**Decision rationale:** Medical necessity has not been established for the requested injection. MTUS Guidelines would certainly speak against the use of autologous blood products and the treatment of lateral epicondylitis. The recommendation for two platelet rich plasma injections to the right elbow cannot be recommended as medically necessary in this case.