

Case Number:	CM13-0033118		
Date Assigned:	12/06/2013	Date of Injury:	06/27/2011
Decision Date:	02/07/2014	UR Denial Date:	09/27/2013
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	10/09/2013

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 & Rehabilitation and is licensed to practice in New York and Texas. 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:

The patient is a 52-year-old female who reported injury on 06/27/2011. The mechanism of injury was not provided. The patient's diagnosis was noted to be, per the Application for Independent Medical Review, rotator cuff syndrome. The request was made for shockwave therapy to the right ankle.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Shock wave therapy for the right ankle: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 14 Ankle and Foot Complaints Page(s): 371.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 14 Ankle and Foot Complaints Page(s): 371.

Decision rationale: ACOEM Guidelines recommend the use of extracorporeal shockwave therapy for plantar fasciitis, however there is insufficient high quality scientific evidence exists to determine clearly the effectiveness of the therapy. There was a lack of documentation to support the necessity as there was no submitted examination. Given the above and the lack of documentation, the request for shock wave therapy for the right ankle is not medically necessary.