

Case Number:	CM13-0042806		
Date Assigned:	12/27/2013	Date of Injury:	10/06/2012
Decision Date:	02/21/2014	UR Denial Date:	09/27/2013
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	10/18/2013

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 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:

The patient is a 60-year-old male who reported an injury on 10/06/2012. The patient is diagnosed with plantar nerve lesion. The patient was seen by [REDACTED] on 10/14/2013. The patient was injected between the 3rd and 4th web space with Marcaine, Xylocaine, and Celestone. A physical examination revealed "some relief." Treatment recommendations included a follow-up visit in 1 month.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

injection to the left foot: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Crawford, 2000; Crawford, 2003; Porter, 2005; McMillan, 2012; McLauchlan, 2000; Hughes, 2007; Thomson, 2004; Ward, 2008.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 14 Ankle and Foot Complaints Page(s): 369-371.

Decision rationale: The California MTUS/ACOEM Practice Guidelines state that invasive techniques have no proven value with the exception of corticosteroid injection into the affected web space in patients with Morton's neuroma, or into the affected area in patients with plantar fasciitis or heel spur if 4 weeks to 6 weeks of conservative therapy is ineffective. As per the

clinical documentation submitted, there is no evidence of a failure to respond to recent conservative treatment prior to the administration of an injection. As such, the medical necessity for the requested procedure has not been established. Therefore, the request is non-certified.