

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Case Number: | CM13-0043605 | | |
| Date Assigned: | 12/27/2013 | Date of Injury: | 05/09/2006 |
| Decision Date: | 02/28/2014 | UR Denial Date: | 10/15/2013 |
| Priority: | Standard | Application Received: | 10/25/2013 |

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, has a subspecialty in Interventional Spine 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 a 45 year-old female who injured her neck and shoulders on 5/09/2006 from trying to open a heavy door. She has been diagnosed with tendinopathy neck/shoulders. According to the IMR application, the patient disagrees with the 10/15/13 UR denial for platelet rich plasma injections to the neck and right shoulder. The 10/15/13 UR letter is from [REDACTED] and states that ODG guidelines states PRP is not recommended. The 10/8/13 RFA requests the procedure, but the 10/7/13 handwritten PR2, does not provide a rationale.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Platelet Rich Plasma (PRP) injections to the neck and right shoulder: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG), Shoulder Chapter, Platelet-rich plasma (PRP).

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG), Pain Chapter, Platelet-rich Plasma (PRP)

Decision rationale: MTUS did not discuss platelet rich plasma (PRP) injections to the neck or right shoulder. ODG guidelines were consulted. ODG guidelines specifically states PRP injections are not recommended for the shoulder. ODG in general states "not recommended except in a research setting". The patient is not in a research setting. The request is not in accordance with ODG guidelines..