

<b>Case Number:</b>	CM13-0043897		
<b>Date Assigned:</b>	12/27/2013	<b>Date of Injury:</b>	03/05/2002
<b>Decision Date:</b>	02/20/2014	<b>UR Denial Date:</b>	10/21/2013
<b>Priority:</b>	Standard	<b>Application Received:</b>	10/31/2013

### 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 Internal Medicine, and is licensed to practice in New York. 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 57 year old male with a date of injury 3/5/02. His diagnoses include s/p cervical fusion, and cervical/lumbar radiculopathy. On 10/9/13, he went to the MD with c/o neck and back pain. He was noted to have no focal neurological deficits. His meds included morphine, Lisinopril, Klonopin, Neurontin, Norco and OxyContin. A vestibular study request was rejected by UR 10/21/13. An appeal was made 10/28/13.

### IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

**Vestibular test:** Upheld

**Claims Administrator guideline:** The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation ODG, Head Chapter Vestibular studies

**MAXIMUS guideline:** The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Other Medical Treatment Guideline or Medical Evidence: Cecil's textbook of med 24th ed. Ch 436 pg. 2464-2468

**Decision rationale:** Vestibular tests can be useful in the evaluation of vertigo (dizziness). Symptoms may include nausea, vomiting, dizziness, hearing loss, and imbalance. The patient has no documented history or physical suggesting this diagnosis. Based on the above, the test remains non-certified.

