

Case Number:	CM13-0045410		
Date Assigned:	12/27/2013	Date of Injury:	06/12/2013
Decision Date:	03/11/2014	UR Denial Date:	10/24/2013
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	11/12/2013

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 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:

Patient sustained an injury to his right knee on June 12, 2013 when he slipped while cleaning a windshield. Patient complains of right knee pain. The pain is increased with physical activity. On physical examination, the patient has tenderness over the body and posterior horn of the right meniscus to palpation and has a positive anterior drawer test. There is a Baker's cyst and a positive McMurray's test. Diagnoses include complete ACL tear, knee joint effusion, and Baker's cyst.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

surgical consult for the right knee: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM).

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM), chapter 7.

Decision rationale: Patient does not meet established criteria for surgical consultation. Specifically, there are no imaging studies to support any evidence of a surgical lesion in the knee

that would require surgical consult. Guidelines recommend referral and consultation when the patient may benefit from additional expertise. [REDACTED] is noted to be a board certified orthopedic surgeon and he has already evaluated the patient. There is no clinical documentation to support the need for surgical lesion being treated by surgical consultation. In addition, the medical records do not indicate that the patient has had a significant trial of failure of conservative measures doing include physical therapy for treatment and knee pain.

CBC, CRP, CPK, Chem 8, Hepatic and arthritis panel: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation <http://www.cigna.com/healthinfo/hw4260.html> because California MTUS and ODG do not specifically address the requested laboratory tests to include CBC, CRP, CPK, Chem 8, hepatic and arthritis panel.

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation <http://www.cigna.com/healthinfo/hw4260.html> because California MTUS and ODG do not specifically address the requested laboratory tests to include CBC, CRP, CPK, Chem 8, hepatic and arthritis panel.

Decision rationale: The patient has not yet had any conservative measures such as x-rays that support the necessity of any lab work for knee pain at this time. The patient should have some inflammation within the injury, but the patient has not yet been treated with medications, physical therapy or other conservative measures. The medical records do not indicate that the patient has autoimmune issues to support the need for an arthritis panel. In addition, the patient is not currently taking any extra medications at this time the cause potential for hepatic issues with support the need for CPK testing. The patient does not have any pending surgery at this time. There is no medical necessity for these required blood tests. Lab work requested is not medically necessary.