

chiropractic sessions two times a week for six weeks for the lumbar spine and left knee/ankle: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 12 Low Back Complaints Page(s): 298-299.

Decision rationale: Per Occupation Medicine Practice Guidelines Chapter 12 page 298 "Manipulation appears safe and effective in the first few weeks of back pain without radiculopathy". "If manipulation does not bring improvement in 3-4 weeks, it should be stopped and patient should be evaluated". "For patients with symptoms lasting longer than one month, manipulation is probably safe but efficacy has not been proved". On 9/6/13 the patient's pain was 10/10, on 9/10/13 pain was 8/10, on 10/1/13 pain was 9/10 and there was no record of functional improvement with treatment. The provided notes mentioned "moderate improvement of symptoms". Due to lack of symptomatic or functional improvement, chiropractic treatment 2 times a week for 6 weeks is not medically necessary.