

Case Number:	CM13-0050374		
Date Assigned:	12/27/2013	Date of Injury:	01/24/2001
Decision Date:	03/17/2014	UR Denial Date:	10/01/2013
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	10/29/2013

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 Occupational Medicine 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:

According to the records made available for review, this is a 62-year-old female with a 1/24/01 date of injury. At the time of request for authorization for elastic compression stockings for the lower extremities, there is documentation of subjective (pain in multiple body parts) and objective (wound on dorsal, left foot) findings, current diagnoses (Diabetes and Obesity), and treatment to date (medications). 9/10/13 medical report indicates that the patient is in need of large, custom fit elastic compression stockings as they are necessary following surgery by [REDACTED] to treat her work injury. There is no documentation of telangiectases after sclerotherapy, varicose veins in pregnancy, edema and deep vein thrombosis (DVT), leg ulcers, post-thrombotic syndrome, or lymphedema.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Elastic compression stockings for the lower extremities: 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), Treatment, Integrated Treatment/Disability Duration Guidelines., Knee & Leg.

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG) Knee & Leg, Compression Garment

Decision rationale: MTUS does not specifically address the issue. ODG identifies that compression stockings are indicated in the management of telangiectases after sclerotherapy, for varicose veins in pregnancy, for prevention of edema and deep vein thrombosis (DVT), for leg ulcers, to prevent progression of post-thrombotic syndrome, and for management of lymphedema. Within the medical information available for review, there is documentation of Diabetes and Obesity. However, despite documentation of a rationale that the patient is in need of large, custom fit elastic compression stockings as they are necessary following surgery by [REDACTED] to treat her work injury, there is no documentation of telangiectases after sclerotherapy, varicose veins in pregnancy, edema and deep vein thrombosis (DVT), leg ulcers, post-thrombotic syndrome, and/or lymphedema. Therefore, based on guidelines and a review of the evidence, the request for compression stockings for the lower extremities is not medically necessary.