

Case Number:	CM13-0067200		
Date Assigned:	01/03/2014	Date of Injury:	10/02/2003
Decision Date:	04/24/2014	UR Denial Date:	11/18/2013
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	12/17/2013

HOW THE IMR FINAL DETERMINATION WAS MADE

MAXIMUS Federal Services sent the complete case file to an expert reviewer. He/she has no affiliation with the employer, employee, providers or the claims administrator. The expert 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 expert 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 61-year-old male with a 10/2/03 date of injury. Subjective complaints include left knee pain with locking sensation, and objective findings include tenderness in the knee, laterally. Current diagnoses include internal derangement of the left knee, and treatment to date has been activity modification and medications.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

A PLATELET RICH PLASMA INJECTION FOR THE LEFT KNEE: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines

Decision rationale: The MTUS does not specifically address this issue. The Official Disability Guidelines state that platelet rich plasma therapy to the knee is under study. There is not enough evidence at this time to recommend this treatment. Therefore, based on guidelines and a review of the evidence, the request is not medically necessary.