

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Page(s): 31-32.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Page(s): 31-32, 49.

Decision rationale: There is no evidence to support the implementation of a functional restoration program at this time. The patient sustained a work injury caused by lifting. He underwent an appropriate assessment for the underlying cause of his pain and was treated with standard medications for this condition. The patient was recommended for a functional restoration program; however, the California MTUS Guidelines state that an adequate and thorough evaluation must be made prior to enrolling in a functional restoration program. As noted in these guidelines the criteria that must be met include the following: An adequate and thorough evaluation has been made including baseline functional testing. The patient has a significant loss of ability to function independently resulting from the chronic pain. This patient has not had an evaluation of his functional capacity and has not had a psychological assessment. Further, there is no documentation in the medical records as to whether this patient has lost the ability to function independently. Therefore, the requested [REDACTED] program is not medically necessary or appropriate at this time.