

<b>Case Number:</b>	CM14-0013757		
<b>Date Assigned:</b>	06/11/2014	<b>Date of Injury:</b>	09/18/2008
<b>Decision Date:</b>	07/29/2014	<b>UR Denial Date:</b>	01/27/2014
<b>Priority:</b>	Standard	<b>Application Received:</b>	02/03/2014

### 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 Dentistry 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:

Review of the submitted records indicates the patient having pain in his teeth due to clenching from orthopedic pain caused by an industrial injury on 09/18/2008. Subjective findings included clenching teeth and bracing facial musculature in response to industrial related pain, bleeding gums, and sleep disturbance. The patient was currently taking vicodin, tramadol, and xanax which provider notes that they have side effects of changing the saliva. Objective finding included swelling and recession of gums, xerostomia and changes to saliva, bacterial biofilm deposits on teeth and around gums, teeth indentations, scalloping of the right and left lateral borders of the tongue, and bite marks on the inside of the cheeks bilaterally. Radiographic results showed periodontal bone loss and generalized abscesses at the apices of the teeth, and the provider is asserting that the teeth are non-salvageable due to bone loss. Additionally, a tongue depressor stuck onto the inside of the patient's cheek, indication possible dry mouth. ■■■■■ has concluded that the patient, with reasonable medical probability, has industrially aggravated periodontal disease with the resultant abscess of his teeth, therefore patient requires FULL MOUTH surgical extraction of his remaining teeth, with restorations including root canals, crowns, dentures, surgical extractions and implants. Provider also requesting a musculoskeletal trigeminal oral appliance to protect the patient from the ill effects of daytime bruxism. The UR has denied this request and requested additional information to "indicate specific teeth to receive dental treatment...and to indicate the most recent subjective, objective and clinical findings to support requested services."

### IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

**1 Teeth Treatment: Surgical Extractions and Implants are medically necessary and appropriate:** Overturned

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

**MAXIMUS guideline:** The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG) Head Chapter, Dental trauma treatment (facial fractures).

**Decision rationale:** Per [REDACTED] report dated 1/27/14 page 5, this patient has been diagnosed with Periodontal bone loss and Generalized Periodontal Abscesses at the Apices of his teeth. [REDACTED] has found that all his teeth are "unsalvageable" due to the industrially aggravated Periodontal disease which has increased the periodontal bone loss and abscesses. Therefore, as recommended by [REDACTED] himself, this patient will require a full mouth extraction, and subsequent placement of implants and dentures to be fitted on top of the implants. Therefore, the Surgical extractions and implants to retain dentures ARE Medically Necessary.

**1 Musculoskeletal Trigeminal Oral Appliance:** Overturned

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

**MAXIMUS guideline:** The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Other Medical Treatment Guidelines or Medical Evidence: Cummings: Otolaryngology: Head & Neck Surgery, 4th ed., Mosby, Inc. Pp.1565-1568. Treatment of TMJ Myofascial Pain Dysfunction Syndrome.

**Decision rationale:** This patient has been diagnosed with Bruxism. Therefore it is my recommendation that a night appliance is medically necessary for this patient. However, it does not have to be a Trigeminal Oral appliance. Any type of occlusal bite guard, whether soft or hard, or mandibular or maxillary, will effectively protect this patients dentition from further damage due to bruxism.

**1 Teeth Treatment: Restoration, Root Canals, and Crowns:** Upheld

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

**MAXIMUS guideline:** The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG) Head Chapter, Dental trauma treatment (facial fractures).

**Decision rationale:** Per [REDACTED] report dated 1/27/14 page 5, this patient has been diagnosed with Periodontal bone loss and Generalized Periodontal Abscesses at the Apices of his teeth. [REDACTED] has found that all his teeth are "unsalvageable" due to the industrially aggravated Periodontal disease which has increased the periodontal bone loss and abscesses. The Restorations, Root Canals and Crowns ARE NOT MEDICALLY NECESSARY, since [REDACTED] [REDACTED] has diagnosed this patient's teeth as "unsalvageable".