

Case Number:	CM14-0014505		
Date Assigned:	02/28/2014	Date of Injury:	07/10/2011
Decision Date:	06/27/2014	UR Denial Date:	01/15/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	02/05/2014

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 Orthopedic Surgery, 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 27 year old female with a reported industrial injury date of 7/10/11. An exam note dated 1/3/14 demonstrates complaints of constant right knee pain. Report notes of locking and popping. Pain is noted to increase with prolonged walking. The patient reports cramping of the calf. No radiographic reports were submitted for review.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

VISCOSUPPLEMENTATION SYNVISCO-ONE OR GEL-ONE TO THE RIGHT KNEE:

Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not cite any medical evidence for its decision.

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

Decision rationale: According to the ODG, Hyaluronic acid injections are indicated for patients with documented severe osteoarthritis of the knee. As there is no radiographic documentation of severe osteoarthritis in the submitted medical records for this 27 year old female claimant, the request is not medically necessary and appropriate.

