

Case Number:	CM14-0015652		
Date Assigned:	03/05/2014	Date of Injury:	12/31/2013
Decision Date:	04/15/2014	UR Denial Date:	01/25/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	02/07/2014

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 Orthopaedic 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:

Patient is a 31-year-old male with industrial injury on 12/31/13. Consultation note from 1/10/14 demonstrates report of tenderness over proximal 4th and right 5th metatarsal. Exam notes and X-ray from 2/7/14 demonstrate patient has a fracture of his 5th metatarsal proximal fourth on the right foot. He has pain with weight bearing. Exam notes from 2/28/14 reveal patient is complaining of right foot pain and is awaiting surgery. Request is for outpatient open reduction internal fixation (ORIF) of the right ankle/foot.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Outpatient Open Reduction Internal Fixation (ORIF) of the Right Ankle/Foot: 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)

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

Decision rationale: CA MTUS/ACOEM is silent on the issue of open reduction and internal fixation of metatarsal fractures. Per the ODG Ankle and Foot section, ORIF is indicated for displaced or comminuted fracture. In this case there is lack of evidence in the records of a

displaced or comminuted fracture to warrant surgical intervention. Therefore ODG criteria has not been satisfied and determination is for non-certification.