

Case Number:	CM14-0122161		
Date Assigned:	08/06/2014	Date of Injury:	02/04/2014
Decision Date:	09/12/2014	UR Denial Date:	07/10/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	08/01/2014

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 Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation 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:

According to the records made available for review, this is a 29-year-old male with a 2/4/14 date of injury. At the time (5/22/14) of request for authorization for Unknown Extracorporeal Shockwave Therapy Sessions for the right elbow and One Urine Drug Test, there is documentation of subjective (sleep disturbance and pain in right elbow, pain rated 6/10) and objective (grade 2 tenderness to palpation of right elbow and range of motion restricted) findings, diagnoses (acute right elbow/forearm strain/sprain, right elbow/forearm contusion, right elbow lateral epicondylitis, right elbow medial epicondylitis, and rule out right elbow/forearm fracture, healed), and treatment to date (physical therapy and medications (Menthoderm and Motrin)). Regarding One Urine Drug Test, there is no documentation of abuse, addiction, or poor pain control and on-going opioid treatment.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Unknown Extracorporeal Shockwave Therapy Sessions for the right elbow: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 10 Elbow Disorders (Revised 2007) Page(s): 29.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 10 Elbow Disorders (Revised 2007) Page(s): 29.

Decision rationale: MTUS reference to ACOEM Guidelines state there is a recommendation against using extracorporeal shockwave therapy for evaluating and managing elbow complaints. Therefore, based on guidelines and a review of the evidence, the request for Unknown Extracorporeal Shockwave Therapy Sessions for the right elbow is not medically necessary.

One Urine Drug Test: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Urine Drug Test; Criteria for Use. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG): Pain (Chronic).

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines On-Going Management Page(s): 78.

Decision rationale: MTUS Chronic Pain Medical Treatment Guidelines identifies documentation of abuse, addiction, or poor pain control in patient under on-going opioid treatment, as criteria necessary to support the medical necessity of Urine Drug Screen. Within the medical information available for review, there is documentation of diagnoses of acute right elbow/forearm strain/sprain, right elbow/forearm contusion, right elbow lateral epicondylitis, right elbow medial epicondylitis, and rule out right elbow/forearm fracture, healed. However, there is no documentation of abuse, addiction, or poor pain control and on-going opioid treatment. Therefore, based on guidelines and a review of the evidence, the request for One Urine Drug Test is not medically necessary.