

Case Number:	CM14-0126990		
Date Assigned:	08/13/2014	Date of Injury:	10/27/2011
Decision Date:	09/16/2014	UR Denial Date:	07/29/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	08/11/2014

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 Nevada. 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 records presented for review indicate that this 29-year-old female was reportedly injured on October 27, 2011. The mechanism of injury is noted as stepping in a hole in the grass. The most recent progress note, dated July 17, 2014, indicates that there are ongoing complaints of pain at the lateral aspect of the right ankle. The physical examination demonstrated an antalgic gait and the inability to heel/toe walk. There was tenderness along the right hallux lateral border with mild edema and erythema. Diagnostic imaging studies Previous treatment includes the use of a short leg cast. A request had been made for a neuromuscular electrical stimulator and was not certified in the pre-authorization process on July 29, 2014.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Neuromucular Electrical Stimulator: Upheld

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

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Page(s): 121.

Decision rationale: The records presented for review indicate that this 29-year-old female was reportedly injured on October 27, 2011. The mechanism of injury is noted as stepping in a hole

in the grass. The most recent progress note, dated July 17, 2014, indicates that there are ongoing complaints of pain at the lateral aspect of the right ankle. The physical examination demonstrated an antalgic gait and the inability to heel/toe walk. There was tenderness along the right hallux lateral border with mild edema and erythema. Diagnostic imaging studies Previous treatment includes the use of a short leg cast. The request is not medically necessary.