

<b>Case Number:</b>	CM14-0131861		
<b>Date Assigned:</b>	09/12/2014	<b>Date of Injury:</b>	04/25/2013
<b>Decision Date:</b>	11/03/2014	<b>UR Denial Date:</b>	08/07/2014
<b>Priority:</b>	Standard	<b>Application Received:</b>	08/18/2014

### 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 Rehabilitation & Pain Management has a subspecialty in Interventional Spine 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 42 year old male with an injury date of 04/25/13. Based on the 08/01/14 progress report provided by [REDACTED], DC, the patient complains of cervical spine, lumbar spine, left wrist and left ankle pain. Physical examination reveals tenderness to palpation and decreased and painful range of motion to the cervical and lumbar spines. Tenderness to palpation and painful range of motion to left wrist and left ankle. Trigger points of paraspinals present at the lumbar spine. Straight leg raise test positive on the left. Kemp's test causes pain bilaterally. Diagnosis 08/01/14; cervical myospasm; cervical pain; cervical sprain/strain; lumbar muscle spasm; lumbar pain; lumbar radiculopathy; lumbar sprain/strain; left carpal tunnel syndrome; left wrist pain; left wrist sprain/strain; left ankle pain; left ankle sprain/strain; rule out left ankle internal derangement; disruptions of 24 hour sleep cycle; loss of sleep; sleep disturbance; anxiety depression; irritability; nervousness. [REDACTED] is requesting decision for Trigger Point Impedance Imaging, C-Spine, L-Spine, Left wrist, Left ankle. The utilization review determination being challenged is dated 08/07/14. The rationale was not given. [REDACTED] is the requesting provider, and he provided treatment reports from 02/28/14 - 07/11/14.

### IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

**Trigger Point Impedance Imaging , C-spine, Lumbar spine, Left wrist, Left ankle:** Upheld

**Claims Administrator guideline:** Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Percutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (PENS).

**MAXIMUS guideline:** Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Trigger Point Injections.

**Decision rationale:** The patient presents with cervical spine, lumbar spine, left wrist and left ankle pain. The request is for decision for Trigger Point Impedance Imaging, C-Spine, L-Spine, Left wrist, Left ankle. His diagnosis dated 08/01/14 includes lumbar muscle spasm, lumbar pain and lumbar radiculopathy. None of the guidelines including MTUS, ACOEM or ODG discuss impedance imaging. MTUS does discuss trigger point injections for myofascial pain. For identification of trigger point injections, examination findings including taut band and referred pain upon palpation is required and does not discuss any imaging needs. Impedance imaging to identify trigger points appear investigational and experimental. Search of the internet yields only minimal discussion of this study. Given the lack of support from the guidelines, and specific recommendations in MTUS on how to treat trigger points, the requested Impedance Imaging does not appear medically indicated. Therefore, the request is not medically necessary.