

<b>Case Number:</b>	CM14-0164236		
<b>Date Assigned:</b>	10/09/2014	<b>Date of Injury:</b>	11/07/2012
<b>Decision Date:</b>	11/19/2014	<b>UR Denial Date:</b>	09/23/2014
<b>Priority:</b>	Standard	<b>Application Received:</b>	10/06/2014

### 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, has a subspecialty in Pain Medicine 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:

This is a patient with a date of injury of 11/7/12. A utilization review determination dated 9/23/14 recommends non-certification of ProSling with abduction pillow. Patient underwent right shoulder arthroscopy on 9/3/14.

### IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

**Pro-Sling with abd pillow (purchase) (right shoulder):** Upheld

**Claims Administrator guideline:** Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 9 Shoulder Complaints Page(s): 213.

**MAXIMUS guideline:** Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 9 Shoulder Complaints Page(s): 213 Table 9-6. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG) Shoulder Chapter, Postoperative abduction pillow sling

**Decision rationale:** Regarding the request for Pro-Sling with abd pillow, CA MTUS does not address the issue specifically. ODG states that postoperative abduction pillow slings are recommended as an option following open repair of large and massive rotator cuff tears. The sling/abduction pillow keeps the arm in a position that takes tension off the repaired tendon. Abduction pillows for large and massive tears may decrease tendon contact to the prepared sulcus but are not used for arthroscopic repairs. Within the documentation available for review,

the patient is noted to have undergone an arthroscopic rather than an open procedure. In light of the above issues, the currently requested Pro-Sling with abd pillow is not medically necessary.