

<b>Case Number:</b>	CM14-0183977		
<b>Date Assigned:</b>	11/10/2014	<b>Date of Injury:</b>	10/06/2012
<b>Decision Date:</b>	12/18/2014	<b>UR Denial Date:</b>	09/26/2014
<b>Priority:</b>	Standard	<b>Application Received:</b>	11/04/2014

### 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 Ophthalmology 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 44 year-old male with a history of traumatic brain injury, right eye injury with loss of vision at the age of 5, and history of neck surgery, for whom request is made for prescription eye glasses. Per encounter dated 9/18/2014, the patient complains of no vision out of right eye due to injury with a rock at the age of 5. Otherwise, "distance and near vision is out of OS (left eye)." The patient suffered a traumatic brain injury when he fell from a ladder at work as a painter. Visual acuity is hand motion right eye and 20/20 at distance left eye (OS), and 20/30 at near OS. Refraction with +1.00 add improves vision to 20/20 at near OS. Request is made for prescription bifocal glasses with polycarbonate lenses, prisms, and transitions.

### IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

**Prescription glasses:** Upheld

**Claims Administrator guideline:** The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO); 2005.15p (Preferred Practice Pattern), (76 references)

**MAXIMUS guideline:** The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation American Academy of Ophthalmology, Preferred Practice Patterns: Comprehensive Adult Evaluation, 2010

**Decision rationale:** The American Academy of Ophthalmology states that for a patient with ophthalmic or refractive abnormalities, the ophthalmologist prescribes glasses, contact lenses, or other optical devices; treats with medications; arranges for additional evaluation, testing, and follow-up as appropriate; and performs nonsurgical or surgical procedures including laser surgery when indicated. For a patient with systemic abnormalities, the ophthalmologist may advise further evaluation or referral, as appropriate. In this case, the claimant has a history of ocular injury to the right eye at the age of 5, preceding the injury at work. Although it would be appropriate to have polycarbonate lenses to protect the patient's only seeing eye, there is no neuro-ophthalmologic evaluation or rationale supporting the request for prism eyeglasses. The request is not medically necessary.