

Case Number:	CM14-0026026		
Date Assigned:	06/13/2014	Date of Injury:	05/08/2013
Decision Date:	07/16/2014	UR Denial Date:	02/20/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	02/28/2014

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 Licensed in Dentistry, 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:

A report dated April 04/2014 from [REDACTED] stated that on May 08, 2013 [REDACTED] suffered a blunt injury involving her nose with associated fracture and has suffered from facial pain and associated airway. She was taken to the operating room in December 2013 for a nasal surgery to improve her airway. The patient has done well from her surgery with restoration of the ability to breathe through both sides of her nose. However she now has developed temporomandibular joint pain due to this industrial injury.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

REFERRAL FOR IMAGING FOR TEMPOROMANDIBULAR JOINT (TMJ) RADIOGRAPHS WITH SPLINTS IN AND OUT: Upheld

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

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Other Medical Treatment Guideline or Medical Evidence: Medscape reference: Imaging of Meniscus Abnormalities in the Temporomandibular Joint: Ali Nawaz Khan, MBBS, FRCS, FRCP, FRCR; Chief Editor: Felix S Chew, MD, MBA, EdM.

Decision rationale: The initial modality used to image meniscus abnormalities in the temporomandibular joint (TMJ) is usually plain radiography or conventional tomography, because arthritic changes and congenital bone abnormality are visualized fairly well on plain films. Radiographs are medically necessary, but there were no peer-reviewed references found to support radiographs with splints in and out. The referral for imaging for the temporomandibular joint radiographs with splints in and out is not medically necessary.