

<b>Case Number:</b>	CM14-0026062		
<b>Date Assigned:</b>	06/13/2014	<b>Date of Injury:</b>	03/17/2012
<b>Decision Date:</b>	07/16/2014	<b>UR Denial Date:</b>	01/31/2014
<b>Priority:</b>	Standard	<b>Application Received:</b>	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 Board Certified in Occupational 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:

According to the records made available for review, this is a 44-year-old male with a 1/31/14 date of injury. At the time (1/9/14) of the request for authorization for functional capacity evaluation of the right shoulder, there is documentation of subjective (pain over the right supraspinatus tendon, pain and discomfort with overhead reaching, and with pushing and pulling above shoulder level) and objective (mild weakness of the abductors and external rotators of the right shoulder) findings, current diagnoses (other post-procedural status, right shoulder arthroscopy), and treatment to date (medication). There is no documentation indicating case management is hampered by complex issues (prior unsuccessful RTW attempts, conflicting medical reporting on precautions and/or fitness for modified job, injuries that require detailed exploration of a worker's abilities); and timing is appropriate (Close to or at MMI/all key medical reports secured and additional/secondary conditions have been clarified).

### IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

#### **FUNCTIONAL CAPACITY EVALUATION OF THE RIGHT SHOULDER: Upheld**

**Claims Administrator guideline:** The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Occupational Medicine Practice Guidelines, pg. 506-512.

**MAXIMUS guideline:** The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation ACOEM, Chapter 7, Independent Medical Examinations and Consultations, pg. 137-138; as well as the Official Disability Guidelines (ODG) Fitness For Duty, Functional Capacity Evaluation.

**Decision rationale:** MTUS reference to ACOEM guidelines identifies that functional capacity evaluations may establish physical abilities and also facilitate the examinee/employer relationship for return to work. ODG identifies documentation indicating case management is hampered by complex issues (prior unsuccessful RTW attempts, conflicting medical reporting on precautions and/or fitness for modified job, injuries that require detailed exploration of a worker's abilities); and timing is appropriate, as criteria necessary to support the medical necessity of a functional capacity evaluation. Within the medical information available for review, there is documentation of diagnoses of other post-procedural status, right shoulder arthroscopy. However, there is no documentation indicating case management is hampered by complex issues, prior unsuccessful RTW attempts, conflicting medical reporting on precautions and/or fitness for modified job, injuries that require detailed exploration of a worker's abilities); and timing is appropriate. Close to all key medical reports secured and additional/secondary conditions have been clarified. Therefore, based on guidelines and a review of the evidence, the request for functional capacity evaluation of the right shoulder is not medically necessary.