

<b>Case Number:</b>	CM14-0034953		
<b>Date Assigned:</b>	06/23/2014	<b>Date of Injury:</b>	05/04/2004
<b>Decision Date:</b>	08/15/2014	<b>UR Denial Date:</b>	03/18/2014
<b>Priority:</b>	Standard	<b>Application Received:</b>	03/20/2014

### 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 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:

Records reviewed indicates that this is a 44-year-old female patient with an industrial injury date on 5/4/2004. The industrial injury has resulted in a chronic habit of teeth grinding/jaw clenching (bruxism) as a response to the chronic orthopedic pain. This patient also displays dry mouth/xerostomia from the side effect of industrial medications that have been prescribed for them. Treating dentist [REDACTED] is requesting 2 occlusal night guards. Utilization review dentist has only authorized 1 occlusal night guard. [REDACTED] on his report dated 2/27/14 states patient is suffering from myofascial pain and will need an occlusal guard made immediately. He states "usually, we make an occlusal guard at the completion of all the crown restoration, but in this case we will need to make one now and another one when she gets her new crowns." Utilization review dentist [REDACTED] on his March 18, 2014 report states : "and occlusal guard was certified for fabrication on 8/13/2013 and there is no reporting of further change in the patient's occlusion since then nor does the provider state that the previous guard is worn out. As such, a night guard does not appear to be needed immediately. However, as each night guard is custom made, a new night guard will be warranted once the crowns have been placed. Therefore, the prospective request for two occlusal night guards is certified with modification, to allow for 1 occlusal night guard, with the other occlusal night guard being non certified."

### IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

**2 occlusal night guards:** Upheld

**Claims Administrator guideline:** The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Johnson VB, Chalmers J., University of Iowa College of Nursing, John A Hartford Foundation Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence 2011 Jul. page 61.

**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: Bruxism Management , Author: Jeff Burgess, DDS, MSD; Chief Editor: Arlen D Meyers, MD, MBA. Appliance Therapy.

**Decision rationale:** Since there was on occlusal guard already fabricated on 08/13/2013, and there is no reporting of patient's occlusion change or previous guard being worn out, this IMR reviewer find this request of 2 occlusal night guards to be not medically necessary. However patient will need one occlusal night guard once the crowns have been placed.