

<b>Case Number:</b>	CM14-0053763		
<b>Date Assigned:</b>	07/07/2014	<b>Date of Injury:</b>	04/15/2013
<b>Decision Date:</b>	09/15/2014	<b>UR Denial Date:</b>	04/08/2014
<b>Priority:</b>	Standard	<b>Application Received:</b>	04/22/2014

### 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:

This patient is a 30 y/o male who fractured his right arm on 4/14/13. A TENS unit purchase was requested for immediate post-operative use after surgery for hardware removal, ectopic bone removal, scar revision and neurolysis. The initial surgery was an open reduction and fixation of a complex radial/elbow fracture.

### IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

**TENS unit purchase:** Upheld

**Claims Administrator guideline:** The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines.

**MAXIMUS guideline:** Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines TENS post operative use Page(s): 116-117.

**Decision rationale:** MTUS Guidelines support the temporary (30 day) use of a TENS unit in a post operative setting. The Guidelines specifically state that a Rental for 30 days would be preferred over the purchase of a unit. There are no unusual circumstances documented that would justify a purchase of a unit vs. a 30 day rental unit. The request for the purchase of TENS unit is not medically necessary.