

Case Number:	CM14-0097123		
Date Assigned:	07/28/2014	Date of Injury:	09/01/2010
Decision Date:	08/28/2014	UR Denial Date:	06/17/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	06/25/2014

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 Orthopedic Surgery 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 is a 67-year-old gentleman who was injured on 09/01/10. The clinical records provided for review include documentation of continued right shoulder complaints. The claimant is noted to have failed conservative care. There is documentation of a recent MR arthrogram revealing a tear to the rotator cuff on the right shoulder for which operative intervention in the form of subacromial decompression and rotator cuff repair is being recommended. In regards to the above mentioned shoulder surgery, there is a request for preoperative medical clearance and the postoperative use of deep venous thrombosis compression boots for utilization following the operative procedure. There are no further clinical records specific to the claimant's current postoperative requests in this care.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Pre-Operative Medical Clearance: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines, Treatment Index, 11th Edition (web), 2013, Low Back Chapter: Pre-operative testing, general.

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation American College of Occupational and Environmental

Medicine (ACOEM), 2nd Edition, (2004), Chapter 7 Independent Medical Examinations and Consultations, page 127.

Decision rationale: Based on California ACOEM Guidelines, preoperative medical clearance would not be indicated. While this individual is scheduled to undergo an arthroscopic procedure to the right shoulder, there is no documentation of underlying comorbidities or past medical history that would require preoperative assessment with the need for "clearance." The specific requests in absence of documentation of past medical history would not be supported.

Perioperative Deep Vein Thrombosis Sequential Boots: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines, Treatment Index, 11th Edition (web), 2013, Knee and Leg Chapter, Compression garments.

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG) Treatment in Worker's Comp, 18th Edition, 2013 Updates: knee procedure - Venous thrombosis.

Decision rationale: The California MTUS and ACOEM Guidelines do not address this request. The Official Disability Guidelines do not support the request for perioperative deep vein thrombosis sequential boots for the lower extremities. This individual is to undergo an outpatient shoulder arthroscopy. There would be no indication of restricted weight bearing or increased risk of deep venous thrombosis given the nature of the claimant's surgical process. There is no documentation to indicate that the claimant has a significant history of venothrombotic disease. The use of postoperative sequential boots to the lower extremities would not be indicated.