

<b>Case Number:</b>	CM14-0186514		
<b>Date Assigned:</b>	11/14/2014	<b>Date of Injury:</b>	06/11/2013
<b>Decision Date:</b>	01/07/2015	<b>UR Denial Date:</b>	10/22/2014
<b>Priority:</b>	Standard	<b>Application Received:</b>	11/10/2014

### 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 Minnesota. 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:

The injured worker is a 45 year old female with a date of injury of 6/11/2013. She has chronic left shoulder pain with the diagnosis of Impingement syndrome. Surgery was scheduled including arthroscopy, subacromial decompression, and distal clavicle resection. The disputed request pertains to transportation to and from the surgical site. The request was non-certified by Utilization Review as it is not a medical service and not within the scope of Utilization Review.

### IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

**(1) Pre/Post-operative transportation to appointments: 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 Official Disability Guidelines (ODG) Section: Knee and Leg, Topic: Transportation to and from appointments.

**Decision rationale:** California MTUS does not address this issue. ODG guidelines recommend transportation to and from appointments for patients with disabilities who are age 55 or older and need a nursing home level of care. Transportation in other cases should be agreed upon by the

payer, provider, and patient. This is not a medical issue and as such medical necessity is not established per guidelines.