

Case Number:	CM14-0187053		
Date Assigned:	11/17/2014	Date of Injury:	04/08/2014
Decision Date:	01/05/2015	UR Denial Date:	10/28/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	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 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 indicate that this patient was involved in an industrial accident on 04/08/14 when the claimant was hit in the mouth with screws. UR report dated 10/27/14 states "There is insufficient documentation to support the request root canal therapy on tooth 6,7,10, and 11" Dental records dated 05/07/14 from [REDACTED] state: "Patient presents with #8 broken from bonding to #7 and #8 is hurting and is feeling loose-#8 shows class I-II mobility and is very sensitive recommend extraction of #8 due to suspect root resorption in the future due to extent of trauma from injury. Patient has some swelling associated with lip. Patient stated that he is still waiting to see medical doctor to evaluate the trauma around bone and soft tissue associated with the accident. Patient has been given Rx for Amoxicillin to decrease swelling and infection from trauma. There is a pick-up impression taken with partial in place to add #8 to partial. Nx: extract #8 and deliver partial- refer pt. to OS to extract root tip on #9. "One Call Care report dated 06/30/14 by [REDACTED] Endodontist States: "The claimant was referred to the endodontist (root canal specialist) by the general dentist for evaluation of numbness on teeth #s 7 and 10, which were impacted during an injury that will result in the loss of teeth #s 8 and 9. The provider has determined that #s 7 and 10, and also teeth #s 6 and 11, have suffered nerve death and is recommending root canal therapy prior to restorative work by the general dentist. Teeth #s 6 and 11 are adjacent to #s 7 and 10, respectively. Root canal is complete removal of the damaged nerves and blood vessels and the placement of a root filling. Once a tooth has a root canal, the tooth no longer has a blood supply and has a tendency to become more fragile over time. The claimant will return to the general dentist upon completion of the root canals for final restoration of #s 6, 7, 10 and 11. The treatment plan appears appropriate and related to the injury. Provider's Treatment Plan Recommendations: As documented in the Clinical Summary, the recommended treatment plan consists of: Option: 1 #6, 7, 10, 11 Root canals."

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Root Canal on tooth 6, 7, 10 and 11: Overturned

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 2 General Approach to Initial Assessment and Documentation.

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG) ODG Head(updated 06/04/13)

Decision rationale: Per medical article referenced above, and records reviewed and summarized, including objective findings of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], this IMR reviewer finds this request for root Canal on tooth 6, 7, 10 and 11 to be medically necessary to correct this patient's industrially related dental condition.