

Case Number:	CM14-0203387		
Date Assigned:	12/15/2014	Date of Injury:	08/20/2012
Decision Date:	02/18/2015	UR Denial Date:	11/19/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	12/05/2014

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. 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/Service. He/she is familiar with governing laws and regulations, including the strength of evidence hierarchy that applies to Independent Medical Review determinations.

The Expert Reviewer has the following credentials:
 State(s) of Licensure: California
 Certification(s)/Specialty: Orthopedic Surgery

CLINICAL CASE SUMMARY

The expert reviewer developed the following clinical case summary based on a review of the case file, including all medical records:

52 year old male claimant with an industrial injury dated 08/20/12. Eventual diagnostic ultrasound of the scrotum and testes dated 05/06/14 reveal a left varicocele and right epididymal head cyst. Exam note 05/23/14 states the patient returns with sexual dysfunction and testicular pain. The patient explains that the pain is continuing to get worse and he experiences back pain as well. The patient experiences urinary frequency, and post void dribbling. Upon physical exam there was no evidence of tenderness or masses on the abdomen. The penis shaft was normal and the Glans was normal as well. The Urethral meatus, the scrotum, the testes are all noted as normal. There was evidence of tenderness on the right testicle. The patient's scrotal pain is noted to be caused by the incompetence of gonadal veins. Treatment includes a laprasocopic varicocelectomy.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Pre op chest x-ray: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Routine Admission and Preoperative Chest Radiography, American College of Radiology - Medical Specialty Society

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation
<http://www.brighamandwomens.org/gms/Medical/preopprotocols.aspx>.

Decision rationale: The above states that patients greater than age 40 require a CBC; males require an ECG if greater than 40 and female is greater than age 50; this is for any type of surgery. In this case the claimant is 52 years old and does not have any evidence in the cited records from 5/23/14 of significant pulmonary dysfunction to support a need for preoperative chest xray. Therefore determination is for not medically necessary.

Pre op EKG: Overturned

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation ACC/AHA 2007 Guidelines on Perioperative Cardiovascular Evaluation and care for noncardiac surgery, and on the American College of Cardiology Foundation - Medical Specialty Society and American Heart Association

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation
<http://www.brighamandwomens.org/gms/Medical/preopprotocols.aspx>.

Decision rationale: The above states that patients greater than age 40 require a CBC; males require an ECG if greater than 40 and female is greater than age 50; this is for any type of surgery. In this case the claimant is 52 years old and meets criteria for an EKG. Therefore determination is for certification. This review presumes that a surgery is planned and will proceed. There is no medical necessity for this request if the surgery does not occur.