

<b>Case Number:</b>	CM14-0207879		
<b>Date Assigned:</b>	12/19/2014	<b>Date of Injury:</b>	06/01/2010
<b>Decision Date:</b>	07/02/2015	<b>UR Denial Date:</b>	11/12/2014
<b>Priority:</b>	Standard	<b>Application Received:</b>	12/11/2014

### 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: North Carolina

Certification(s)/Specialty: Family Practice

### 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 53-year-old female injured worker suffered an industrial injury on 06/01/2010. The diagnoses included left knee osteoarthritis. The injured worker had been treated with bracing, arthroscopy and medications. On 10/9/2014, the treating provider reported left knee pain that was severe. The request was for anticipated total knee arthroplasty. The treatment plan included Pre-Op Physical Exam for Medical Clearance.

### IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

**Pre-Op Physical Exam for Medical Clearance:** Upheld

**Claims Administrator guideline:** The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation (ACOEM) American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, 2nd edition: chapter 7; Independent Medical Examinations and Consultations , pg 127.

**MAXIMUS guideline:** The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation ODG, and pre-operative clearance.

**Decision rationale:** The California MTUS ODG and the ACOEM do not specifically address the requested service. The ODG does recommend pre-operative clearance for risk stratification based on type of surgery and the patient's co-morbid conditions. However, in this case it does not appear that operative intervention has been approved. Therefore, pre-operative clearance would not be medically necessary.