

Case Number:	CM14-0034777		
Date Assigned:	06/20/2014	Date of Injury:	05/25/2012
Decision Date:	01/28/2015	UR Denial Date:	03/05/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	03/20/2014

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 Dermatologist and is licensed to practice in New York. 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 enrollee is a 48 year old male with history of slip and fall injury at work leading to neck injuries and ultimately spinal decompression. He complained of tingling and sensitivity in the hand and arm and was suggested to see a dermatologist. There are no medical records from his primary care physician as having evaluated the enrollee for his condition. The request for dermatology referral was denied.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Dermatologist Consultation: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation ACOEM for Independent Medical Examinations and Consultations regarding referrals, Chapter 7

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Other Medical Treatment Guideline or Medical Evidence: Markova A, Weinstock MA, Risica P, Kirtania U, Shaikh W, Ombao H, Chambers CV, Kabango ML, Kallail JK, Post D. Effect of a web-based curriculum on primary care practice: basic skin cancer triage trial. Fam Med. 2013 Sep;45(8):558-68.

Decision rationale: The enrollee is a 48 year old male with history of slip and fall injury with resultant nerve compression requiring surgical intervention, who requests coverage of a dermatology referral for possible cellulitis or yeast infection by his chiropractor. There are no medical records to substantiate or support the need for dermatology referral in this case, specifically from his primary care provider. Given that the enrollee has not yet been evaluated by his primary care provider for this condition, dermatology referral is not medically necessary.