

Case Number:	CM15-0104532		
Date Assigned:	06/08/2015	Date of Injury:	06/02/2014
Decision Date:	07/09/2015	UR Denial Date:	05/22/2015
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	06/01/2015

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: New York
 Certification(s)/Specialty: Podiatrist

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 28-year-old female, who sustained an industrial injury on June 2, 2014, incurring right foot injuries after a tractor ran over her foot. She was diagnosed with a closed calcaneus fracture of the right foot. Treatment included casting of the foot for six weeks, anti-inflammatory drugs, pain medications and work restrictions. Currently, the injured worker complained of burning sensation of the right foot increased with prolonged walking and on range of motion. In October, 2014, a computed tomography of the right foot revealed largely healed fracture of the calcaneus with a bit of fragmentation. The treatment plan that was requested for authorization included two bilateral feet custom orthotic castings and one plaster application.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Two (2) bilateral feet custom orthotic castings: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines , Ankle & Foot (Acute & Chronic): Orthotic Devices (2015).

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 14 Ankle and Foot Complaints Page(s): 370-371. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG) ankle and foot, orthotics.

Decision rationale: After careful review of the enclosed information and the pertinent MTUS and ODG guidelines, it is my feeling that the requested "bilateral feet custom orthotics castings" are not medically reasonable or necessary at this time according to the guidelines. Both guidelines recommend custom orthotics for the treatment of plantar fasciitis and/or metatarsalgia. This patient has unfortunately suffered with a calcaneal fracture, which has essentially healed. She is continuing to experience pain from this injury. Patient does not have a diagnosis of plantar fasciitis and/or metatarsalgia, therefore custom orthotics cannot be recommended.

One (1) plaster application: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not cite any medical evidence for its decision.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 14 Ankle and Foot Complaints Page(s): 371.

Decision rationale: After careful review of the enclosed information and the pertinent MTUS and ODG guidelines, it is my feeling that the requested "bilateral feet custom orthotics castings" are not medically reasonable or necessary at this time according to the guidelines. Both guidelines recommend custom orthotics for the treatment of plantar fasciitis and/or metatarsalgia. This patient has unfortunately suffered with a calcaneal fracture, which has essentially healed. She is continuing to experience pain from this injury. Patient does not have a diagnosis of plantar fasciitis and/or metatarsalgia, therefore custom orthotics cannot be recommended. A plaster application is a required procedure in order to fabricate orthotics. Because orthotics cannot be recommended in this case, a plaster application also cannot be recommended.