

Case Number:	CM15-0107929		
Date Assigned:	06/12/2015	Date of Injury:	06/05/2014
Decision Date:	07/14/2015	UR Denial Date:	05/18/2015
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	06/04/2015

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: California, Indiana, Oregon
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:

The injured worker is a 39 year old female, who sustained an industrial injury on 6/05/2014. She reported stepping into a hole with right foot. The injured worker was diagnosed as having dislocation of the fourth metatarsal-caboid joint right foot. Treatment to date has included diagnostics, cortisone injections, modified activity, bracing, orthoses, and physical therapy. Magnetic resonance imaging of the right foot (12/30/2014) showed impaction contusional injury affecting the plantar aspect of the fourth metatarsal base, with no displaced fractures evident. Currently, the injured worker complains of chronic foot pain and would like surgery. Objective findings noted tenderness overlying the fourth metatarsocuboid joint, with some swelling. Her work status was modified. An orthopedic consultation note (5/01/2015) noted that she last worked in 10/2014. Her physical exam noted that she was neurovascularly intact, with full strength in all major muscle groups. The treatment plan included open reduction and internal fixation of the right foot, fourth metatarsal-caboid joint.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Open Reduction Internal Fixation Right Foot 4th Metatarsel-Caboid Joint: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 14 Ankle and Foot Complaints.

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG) foot.

Decision rationale: CAMTUS/ACOEM is silent on the issue of ORIF for Lis Franc's fracture/dislocation. Per ODG foot and ankle, surgery is recommended if there is malposition of the joints. If there are no fractures and the dislocation is less than 2mm, on-surgical care can be considered. For most injuries, open reduction with temporary fixation is recommended. In this case, the MRI shows no evidence of displacement so surgical care is not recommended by guidelines. The request is not medically necessary.