

<b>Case Number:</b>	CM15-0139044		
<b>Date Assigned:</b>	07/29/2015	<b>Date of Injury:</b>	10/22/2014
<b>Decision Date:</b>	08/26/2015	<b>UR Denial Date:</b>	07/14/2015
<b>Priority:</b>	Standard	<b>Application Received:</b>	07/17/2015

### 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  
 Certification(s)/Specialty: Emergency Medicine

### 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 27 year old male, who sustained an industrial injury on October 22, 2014. He reported sharp pain in his right shoulder. The injured worker was diagnosed as having right shoulder chronic impingement, rule out rotator cuff tear. Treatment to date has included physical therapy from which he reported no relief. On February 4, 2015, the injured worker complained of severe right shoulder pain with any at-or-above shoulder level activities, reaching, pushing or pulling. The treatment plan included an MRI scan of the right shoulder. On July 14, 2015, Utilization Review non-certified the request for three extracorporeal shock wave therapy utilizing the EMS Swiss Dolorclast ESWI device 2000 shocks at the level (1.4 bar) per treatment session once a week for 30 minutes for each session to treat refractory calcifying tendinitis right shoulder, citing Official Disability Guidelines.

### IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

**Extracorporeal shock wave therapy to treat refractory calcifying tendinitis right shoulder, three sessions, utilizing the EMS Swiss Dolorclast ESWT Device, 2000 shocks at the level (1.4 bar) per treatment session, once a week for 30 minutes for each session: Upheld**

**Claims Administrator guideline:** The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines-Extracorporeal Shock Wave Therapy (ESWT), Shoulder, Elbow and Ankle & Foot Chapters.

**MAXIMUS guideline:** Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 9 Shoulder Complaints Page(s): 203.

**Decision rationale:** The requested Extracorporeal shock wave therapy to treat refractory calcifying tendinitis right shoulder, three sessions, utilizing the EMS Swiss Dolorclast ESWT Device, 2000 shocks at the level (1.4 bar) per treatment session, once a week for 30 minutes for each session, is not medically necessary. American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM), 2nd Edition, (2004), Chapter 9, Shoulder Complaints, Initial Care, Page 203, note "Some medium quality evidence supports manual physical therapy, ultrasound and high-energy extracorporeal shock wave therapy for calcifying tendonitis of the shoulder. At least three conservative treatments have been performed prior to use of ESWT. These would include: (a) Rest; (b) Ice; (c) NSAIDs; (d) Orthotics; (e) Physical Therapy; (e) Injections (Cortisone). Maximum of 3 therapy sessions over 3 weeks." The treating physician has documented right shoulder calcific tendonitis. The treating physician has not documented radiographic or imaging confirmation of the current presence of calcific tendonitis. The criteria noted above not having been met, Extracorporeal shock wave therapy to treat refractory calcifying tendinitis right shoulder, three sessions, utilizing the EMS Swiss Dolorclast ESWT Device, 2000 shocks at the level (1.4 bar) per treatment session, once a week for 30 minutes for each session is not medically necessary.