

<b>Case Number:</b>	CM15-0027170		
<b>Date Assigned:</b>	02/19/2015	<b>Date of Injury:</b>	08/09/2012
<b>Decision Date:</b>	04/06/2015	<b>UR Denial Date:</b>	02/04/2015
<b>Priority:</b>	Standard	<b>Application Received:</b>	02/12/2015

### 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, New Hampshire, Washington  
 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 51 year old male, who sustained an industrial injury on 8/9/12. On 2/12/15, the injured worker submitted an application for IMR for review of Pre-operative labs, and associated surgical service: Chest X-ray. The treating provider has reported the injured worker preparing for surgery: C4-7 anterior cervical discectomy and fusion with PEEK interbody/allograft anterior plate and screws. The diagnoses have included joint pain-shoulder; cervical stenosis; post-surgical states NEC; cervical disc displacement; cervicgia; brachial neuritis NOS; orthopedic aftercare NOS,; rotator cuff rupture. Treatment to date has included MRI cervical spine (2/4/15), two left shoulder arthroscopies with rotator cuff repair/debridement (last on 2/25/14). On 2/4/15 Utilization Review non-certified Pre-operative labs, and associated surgical service: Chest X-ray. The ACOEM, ACC/AHA 2007 Preoperative Cardiovascular Evaluation and Care for Non-cardiac Surgery and National Guidelines Clearinghouse Guidelines were cited.

### IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

**Pre-operative labs:** Upheld

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

**MAXIMUS guideline:** The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Am Fam Physician. 2013 Mar 15; 87(6):414-8, Preoperative testing before non-cardiac surgery: guidelines and recommendations. Feely MA1, Collins CS, Daniels PR, Kebede EB, Jatoi A, Mauck KF.

**Decision rationale:** The records indicate that this patient does not have significant medical comorbidities. There is no medical need for pre-op lab testing. The surgery is not extensive and there is no need for pre-op lab work. The current medical literature does not support the need for pre-op lab work; therefore, this request is not medically necessary.

**Associated surgical service: Chest X-ray:** Upheld

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

**MAXIMUS guideline:** The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Am Fam Physician. 2013 Mar 15;87(6):414-8, Preoperative testing before non-cardiac surgery: guidelines and recommendations. Feely MA1, Collins CS, Daniels PR, Kebede EB, Jatoi A, Mauck KF.

**Decision rationale:** The records do not reveal a previous history of pulmonary issues. There is no medical need for pre-op Chest X-Ray. Current medical literature does not support the need for pre-op Chest X-Ray in this patient with no history of pulmonary problems. Therefore this request is not medically necessary.