

Case Number:	CM15-0038840		
Date Assigned:	03/09/2015	Date of Injury:	11/19/2012
Decision Date:	04/10/2015	UR Denial Date:	02/13/2015
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	03/02/2015

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: North Carolina

Certification(s)/Specialty: Family Practice

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 61-year-old male, who sustained an industrial injury on 11/19/2012. The mechanism of injury and initial complaint was not provided for review. The injured worker's diagnoses included right elbow arthritis, persistent right shoulder pain, carpal tunnel syndrome, right wrist pain and right ulnar impaction syndrome. Treatment to date has included a right reverse total shoulder arthroplasty, 24 post-operative physical therapy visits and medication management. Currently, the injured worker complains of right shoulder pain that radiates to the right wrist and hand and finger numbness. Treatment plan includes a pain management specialist evaluation and treatment.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Pain Management Specialist Evaluation and Treatment: Overturned

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM.

Decision rationale: Per the ACOEM :The health practitioner may refer to other specialist if a diagnosis is uncertain or extremely complex, when psychosocial factors are present, or when the

plan or course of care may benefit from additional expertise. A referral may be for: 1. Consultation to aid in the diagnosis, prognosis, therapeutic management, determination of medical stability. The request is for a problem outside of the scope of practice of the primary treating physician and therefore is medically necessary.