

Case Number:	CM15-0060689		
Date Assigned:	04/07/2015	Date of Injury:	01/09/2012
Decision Date:	05/05/2015	UR Denial Date:	03/24/2015
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	03/30/2015

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: Preventive Medicine, Occupational 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 was a 63 year old male, who sustained an industrial injury, January 9, 2012. The injured worker previously received the following treatments surgery on the left foot, Percocet, Mobic, cane, lower leg brace, physical therapy and home exercise program. The injured worker was diagnosed with status post successful spinal cord stimulator trial, CRPS (complex regional pain syndrome) type I of the left foot, left foot fracture, left lower extremity neuropathic pain syndrome ad healed fracture of the left calcaneum with deformity into the left subtalar joint. According to progress note of January 20, 2015, the injured workers chief complaint was ongoing left foot pain. The physical exam noted an antalgic gait and using a cane for balance and ambulation. The injured worker had a left lower leg brace on. The treatment plan included an initial functional restoration program for 2 weeks.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Initial Functional Restoration Program x2 weeks (10 days): Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Page(s): 31-32.

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines, Pain (Chronic), Chronic pain programs (functional restoration programs).

Decision rationale: Criteria for admission to a multidisciplinary pain management program delineated in the Official Disability Guidelines are numerous and specific. The medical record must document, at a minimum, which previous methods of treating the patient's chronic pain have been unsuccessful and there is an absence of other options likely to result in significant clinical improvement. In addition, an adequate and thorough multidisciplinary evaluation has been made. There should be documentation that the patient has motivation to change, and is willing to change their medication regimen (including decreasing or actually weaning substances known for dependence). There should also be some documentation that the patient is aware that successful treatment may change compensation and/or other secondary gains. The medical record does not contain documentation of the above criteria. Initial Functional Restoration Program x2 weeks (10 days) is not medically necessary.