MAXIMUS Federal Services

Case Number:	CM14-0162277		
Date Assigned:	10/07/2014	Date of Injury:	08/24/2010
Decision Date:	10/30/2014	UR Denial Date:	09/22/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	10/02/2014

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. The expert reviewer is Board Certified in Family Medicine and is licensed to practice in North Carolina. 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/services. He/she is familiar with governing laws and regulations, including the strength of evidence hierarchy that applies to Independent Medical Review determinations.

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 claimant had an original date of injury of 8/24/2010. The claimant is diagnosed with right wrist pain and recent MRI has demonstrated a mass for which surgery may be indicated. The request is for 1 RVL with [redacted] for review of right wrist MRI with contrast.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

1 RVL With [redacted] For Review Of Right Wrist MRI with Contrast: Overturned

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

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 11 Forearm, Wrist, and Hand Complaints Page(s): 270.

Decision rationale: ACOEM addresses the need for orthopedic specialty consultation. Reasons for such consultation include presence of any red flag findings, failure to respond as expected to a course of conservative management or consideration of surgical intervention. The medical records in this case contain evidence of new findings on the MRI for which surgery may be indicated and which warrant consultation with a specialist. 1 RVL with [redacted] is medically necessary.