

Case Number:	CM15-0077412		
Date Assigned:	04/28/2015	Date of Injury:	04/15/2009
Decision Date:	05/28/2015	UR Denial Date:	04/09/2015
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	04/23/2015

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 59 year old male with an industrial injury dated 4/15/2009. The injured worker's diagnoses include SP neuritis/entrapment of right leg and residual sinus tarsi syndrome. According to the progress note dated 3/24/2015, the injured worker reported pain around ankle area that may have been irritated due to wet ground. Objective findings revealed some tenderness to palpitation of sinus tarsi and tenderness to palpitation of SP nerve at deep fascial exit. The treating physician reported that current orthotic revealed excessive wear. The treatment plan was diagnostic/therapeutic injection to right leg, custom orthotics and possible injection to sinus tarsi. The treating physician prescribed services for one pair of custom-molded orthotics, related to the right ankle symptoms, as outpatient now under review.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

One pair of custom-molded orthotics, related to the right ankle symptoms,: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 14 Ankle and Foot Complaints.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 14 Ankle and Foot Complaints Page(s): 370.

Decision rationale: The ACOEM chapter on foot and ankle complaints states: Rigid orthotics (full-shoe-length inserts made to realign within the foot and from foot to leg) may reduce pain experienced during walking and may reduce more global measures of pain and disability for patients with plantar fasciitis and metatarsalgia. The patient does not have either of these diagnoses and therefore the request is not medically necessary.