

Case Number:	CM14-0152738		
Date Assigned:	09/22/2014	Date of Injury:	06/06/2014
Decision Date:	11/04/2014	UR Denial Date:	08/21/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	09/18/2014

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 California. 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:

This injured worker's date of injury is 06/06/2014. Medical records reviewed. This patient receives treatment for left knee and ankle pain, which occurred as a result of a slip and fall. The patient slipped and landed on her knees. The patient complains of tightness and throbbing discomfort. On exam there is decreased ROM and tenderness, but there is no AP instability noted. Left knee x-ray is normal. The patient received physical therapy treatments. Medications include Ibuprofen, Flexeril, and Ultram.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

MRI of the left knee: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 13 Knee Complaints. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 13 Knee Complaints Page(s): page 341.

Decision rationale: A knee MRI may be medically indicated when the history and physical exam strongly suggests a torn ACL ligament. The medical records provided do not favor this. A knee MRI is not medically indicated. Therefore, this request is not medically necessary.