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DATE OF REVIEW: August 7, 2007

IRO CASE #:

DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICE OR SERVICES IN DISPUTE

Septoplasty (Repair of nasal septum)

A DESCRIPTION OF THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR EACH PHYSICIAN OR OTHER HEALTH CARE PROVIDER WHO REVIEWED THE DECISION

American Board of Otolaryngology

REVIEW OUTCOME

Upon independent review the reviewer finds that the previous adverse determination/adverse determinations should be:

- Upheld (Agree)
 Overturned (Disagree)
 Partially Overturned (Agree in part/Disagree in part)

INFORMATION PROVIDED TO THE IRO FOR REVIEW

Medical records from the Carrier include:

- Hospital, M.D., xx/xx/xx
- Center, M.D., 03/20/07, 04/17/07, 04/20/07, 05/04/07, 05/10/07, 05/18/07, 07/02/07
- M.D., 03/26/07
- Center – Center, M.D., 05/04/07
- Reviews, M.D., 07/15/07
- M.D., 05/04/07, 07/20/07
- 07/31/07

PATIENT CLINICAL HISTORY [SUMMARY]:

The medical records reviewed include an operative report, dated xx/xx/xx, from Hospital at which time the patient underwent a septorhinoplasty and bilateral inferior turbinate resections.

I also reviewed a history and physical from, M.D., as well as questionnaire from his office at the time of the patient's initial examination. There is a CT scan of the paranasal sinuses from March 26, 2007, as well as further chart notes from Dr. through April 17, 2007. The operative report by Dr., dated May 4, 2007, is also included. This is followed

by further chart notes from Dr. in the postoperative period that extends through July 3, 2007.

The patient underwent septorhinoplasty and bilateral partial inferior turbinate resections in xx/xx/xx. The patient was initially seen by, M.D., with her chief complaint being headaches. She had been seen by a neurologist for migraine-type headaches. She reports she did well with her medications used for her migraine headaches. The rationale for the need for surgery was stated as a persistently deviated nasal septum, which was felt to be related to her headaches.

ANALYSIS AND EXPLANATION OF THE DECISION. (INCLUDE CLINICAL BASIS, FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS USED TO SUPPORT THE DECISION.)

There appears to be no medical reason for the patient's nasal surgery at this time. Nasogenic headaches are generally due to areas of mucosal contact within the nasal cavity, such as septum compressing either the inferior/middle turbinates. The CT scan of the sinuses clearly demonstrates and indicates that the nasal airway is patent in that there is no contact of the turbinates with the nasal septum. The patient's history of headaches, which are also associated with ear pain, was also clinically correlated more likely than not with temporomandibular joint muscular-type headaches as opposed to nasogenic headaches. Nasogenic headaches generally do not cause ear pain. There also does not appear to be any evidence of nasal airway obstruction. The CT scan of the sinuses clearly indicates that the nasal airway is patent. Since there is no evidence of significant structural abnormalities to warrant nasal surgery for nasal obstruction, there appears to be no medical reason for septoplasty at this time.

A DESCRIPTION AND THE SOURCE OF THE SCREENING CRITERIA OR OTHER CLINICAL BASIS USED TO MAKE THE DECISION:

- ACOEM- AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OCCUPATIONAL & ENVIRONMENTAL MEDICINE UM KNOWLEDGEBASE
- AHCPR- AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH & QUALITY GUIDELINES
- DWC- DIVISION OF WORKERS COMPENSATION POLICIES OR GUIDELINES
- EUROPEAN GUIDELINES FOR MANAGEMENT OF CHRONIC LOW BACK PAIN
- INTERQUAL CRITERIA
- MEDICAL JUDGEMENT, CLINICAL EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ACCEPTED MEDICAL STANDARDS
- MERCY CENTER CONSENSUS CONFERENCE GUIDELINES
- MILLIMAN CARE GUIDELINES
- ODG- OFFICIAL DISABILITY GUIDELINES & TREATMENT GUIDELINES
- PRESSLEY REED, THE MEDICAL DISABILITY ADVISOR
- TEXAS GUIDELINES FOR CHIROPRACTIC QUALITY ASSURANCE & PRACTICE PARAMETERS
- TEXAS TACADA GUIDELINES
- TMF SCREENING CRITERIA MANUAL
- PEER REVIEWED NATIONALLY ACCEPTED MEDICAL LITERATURE (PROVIDE A DESCRIPTION)
- OTHER EVIDENCE BASED, SCIENTIFICALLY VALID, OUTCOME FOCUSED GUIDELINES (PROVIDE A DESCRIPTION)