

AMENDED Notice of Independent Review Decision**DATE OF REVIEW: 5/30/07****IRO CASE #:****DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICE OR SERVICES IN DISPUTE**

Chronic pain management – 10 sessions.

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

This case was reviewed by a board certified psychiatrist on the MAXIMUS external review panel who is familiar with the condition and treatment options at issue in this appeal.

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)

<i>Primary Dx Code</i>	<i>HCPCS</i>	<i>Mod</i>	<i>Units</i>	<i>Type Review</i>	<i>DOS</i>	<i>Amt Billed</i>	<i>Date of Injury</i>	<i>Claim #</i>	<i>Uphold / Overturned</i>
944.0	97799			Prospective					Uphold

INFORMATION PROVIDED TO THE IRO FOR REVIEW

1. Request for Independent Review by an Independent Review Organization forms – 5/21/07
2. Determination Notices – 4/26/07, 5/4/07
3. Records and Correspondence from Maintenance Centers – 2/1/07
4. Records and Correspondence from Pain Management Solutions – 4/23/07-5/2/07

PATIENT CLINICAL HISTORY:

This case concerns an adult male who sustained a work related injury. Records indicate the member received left arm, left elbow and right hand second degree burns and a head injury, however the details regarding the circumstances of the injury were not provided. Diagnoses have included left arm, left elbow and right hand second degree burns, chronic pain syndrome, depression and anxiety. Evaluation and treatment for this injury has included medications, injections, and surgery.

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

The data reviewed indicates the patient has benefited significantly from the chronic pain management program. His Beck Depression (BDI) score is down as is his Beck Anxiety (BAI) score. The patient's Global Assessment of Functioning (GAF) has also improved. The information presented indicates that he remains significantly impaired and in need of continued treatment. However, the requesting provider fails to establish why the treatment must continue in the context of a pain management program as opposed to a lower level of care. Therefore, the requested additional chronic pain management is not deemed medically necessary for treatment of the patient's condition 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)**