



Medical Review Institute of America, Inc.
America's External Review Network

DATE OF REVIEW: July 29, 2008

IRO Case #:

Description of the services in dispute:

1. Botox injection for right hand.

A description of the qualifications for each physician or other health care provider who reviewed the decision

The physician who provided this review is board certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology on Neurology. This reviewer is a member of the American Academy of Neurology. This reviewer has been in practice since 1980.

Review Outcome

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

Overtured.

1. Botox injection for right hand.

Botox injection for the right hand is medically necessary.

Information provided to the IRO for review

FROM THE STATE OF TEXAS:

Confirmation of receipt of a request for a review by an IRO 7/18/08 - 4 pages

Request for a review by an IRO 7/16/08 - 3 pages

Letter from 5/20/08 - 4 pages

Letter from 6/26/08 - 4 pages

Letter from 7/18/08 - 1 page

FROM THE INSURANCE COMPANY:

Letter from 7/22/08 - 1 page

Provider form - 1 page

Letter from 5/20/08 – 3 pages
Letter from 6/26/08 – 3 pages
Operative report 1/11/05 – 2 pages
Progress notes 5/23/05 – 3/9/06 – 3 pages
EMG/NCV report 7/6/05 – 2 pages
Progress notes 2/10/06 – 5/26/06 – 2 pages
Progress notes 7/21/06 – 11/10/06 – 2 pages
Progress notes 10/20/06 – 2/19/07 – 2 pages
Report of medical evaluation 1/15/07 – 1 page
Designated Medical Examination 3/15/07 – 4 pages
Progress notes 1/29/07 – 8/30/07 – 1 page
Progress notes 9/14/07 – 1/25/08 – 2 pages
Work Comp progress notes 4/18/08 – 1 page
ODG guidelines – Forearm, wrist, and hand – 3 pages

FROM DR.

EMG/NCV report 7/6/05 – 1 page
Progress notes 8/9/05 – 11/10/05 – 2 pages
Progress notes 12/30/05 – 2/10/06 – 2 pages
Progress notes 5/26/06 – 7/21/06 – 2 pages
Progress notes 10/20/06 – 11/10/06 – 2 pages
Progress notes 2/19/07 – 5/25/07 – 2 pages
Progress notes 9/14/07 – 1/25/08 – 2 pages
Work Comp progress notes 4/18/08 – 1 page

Patient clinical history [summary]

Botox is requested for a xx year old woman for treatment of focal dystonia. The patient has had bilateral carpal tunnel surgery. The injury is attributed to repetitive hand activity; the date of injury was in xxxx. The patient receives Botox injections to the right middle finger every three months for dystonia/spasm. Dr. reports the patient experiences involuntary extension of the right middle finger. The 7/26/05 EDX study showed increased activation in extensor digitorum communis with writing. Diagnosis was focal dystonia due to writer's cramp. The patient has received regular injections into the right extensor digitorum of Botox for treatment of writer's cramp.

Analysis and explanation of the decision include clinical basis, findings and conclusions used to support the decision.

Botox for the right hand is medically necessary. The peer reviewed literature supports the effectiveness of Botox for the treatment of writer's cramp.

A description and the source of the screening criteria or other clinical basis used to make the decision:

Simpson, DM, et al. Assessment: Botulinum neurotoxin for the treatment of movement disorders (an evidence-based review): report of the Therapeutics and Technology Assessment Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology. *Neurology*. 2008 May 6;70(19): 1699-706

Kruisdijk, et al. Botulinum toxin for writer's cramp: a randomised, placebo-controlled trial and 1-year follow-up. *J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry*. 2007 Mar;78(3): 264-70. Epub 2006 Dec 21

1391534.1

cbs