

# C-IRO Inc.

An Independent Review Organization  
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## NOTICE OF INDEPENDENT REVIEW DECISION

**DATE OF REVIEW:** Mar/19/2010

**IRO CASE #:**

**DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICE OR SERVICES IN DISPUTE:** Right knee arthroscopy/removal of scar tissue/manipulation, three to five days LOS 29884, 27570

**DESCRIPTION OF THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR EACH PHYSICIAN OR OTHER HEALTH CARE PROVIDER WHO REVIEWED THE DECISION:** MD, Board Certified Orthopedic Surgeon

**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**

Adverse Determination Letters, 1/25/10, 2/12/10  
3/2/10  
CAN 1/28/10  
M.D. 9/8/08 to 1/18/10  
PT Progress Notes, 4/7/09 to 11/13/09  
Detar 7/1/09  
1/29/09  
Confirm 10/21/08  
ODG Guidelines and Treatment Guidelines, Knee and Leg Chapter  
MRI of the knee, 9/22/08  
Operative report, 6/24/09  
Dr. Md, 8/25/08, 8/27/08  
9/8/08  
Dr. MD, 10/21/08

**PATIENT CLINICAL HISTORY SUMMARY**

This is a male who sustained an injury to the knee at work on xx/xx/xx. Prior to the injury, he had two ACL reconstructions. He had physical therapy and three injections, followed by total knee replacement on the right with removal of tibial ACL fixation screw on 6/24/09. He had a delay in physical therapy and his doctor noted on 7/21/09 that he was not doing his home exercises as instructed. After approximately 33 post-surgery physical therapy visits, on 1/18/10, Dr. note states the patient is at an impasse with his physical therapy. "He rigidly stuck at about 90 to 93 degrees of flexion and 5 to 7 degrees of lack of full extension." He recommended arthroscopy of the knee followed by manipulation and lysis of scar tissue and removal of adhesions arthroscopically followed by manipulation.

**ANALYSIS AND EXPLANATION OF THE DECISION INCLUDING CLINICAL BASIS, FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS USED TO SUPPORT THE DECISION**

Following total knee arthroplasty, the evidence-based ODG recommends manipulation under anesthesia for some patients who fail to achieve greater than 90 degrees of flexion.

According to provider's exam note dated 1/18/10, the patient has achieved 90 to 93 degrees of flexion. No reason has been provided as to why the evidence-based guidelines should not be followed in this particular instance. The reviewer finds that medical necessity does not exist at this time for Right knee arthroscopy/removal of scar tissue/manipulation, three to five days LOS 29884, 27570.

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

ACOEM-AMERICA 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)