

SENT VIA EMAIL OR FAX ON
May/03/2010

Independent Resolutions Inc.

An Independent Review Organization
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NOTICE OF INDEPENDENT REVIEW DECISION

DATE OF REVIEW:

Apr/29/2010

IRO CASE #:

DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICE OR SERVICES IN DISPUTE:

Vacuum Erection Device

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

MD Board Certified in Urology

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

OD Guidelines

Denial Letters 2/3/10 and 3/29/10

Institute 1/27/10 and 3/11/10

PATIENT CLINICAL HISTORY SUMMARY

This male was injured in a fall on xx/xx/xx and he sustained a spinal cord injury rendering him a T-5 paraplegic. The injured employee subsequently developed voiding dysfunction secondary to a Neurogenic Bladder and also developed Erectile Dysfunction. Penile vascular testing was normal and therefore he was diagnosed with Erectile Dysfunction secondary to his spinal cord injury. He was placed on Testim for a diagnosis of hypogonadism

Viagra had been tried but the results were described as unsuccessful. The dosage was not listed.

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

In patients such as this, it is acceptable to try either Viagra Type medications or Vacuum Erection Device as a first line of therapy. If either work only partially then occasionally combination therapy can be prescribed. However, it is very important when using Viagra type

medications in Spinal Cord Injured patients, as they are more susceptible to Priapism

The URA reviewer is correct in stating that we should know the dosage of Viagra and whether another medication from the same family has been tried.

The IRO reviewer's decision is based on the patient's history of spinal cord injury with subsequent paraplegia and their knowledge of the diagnosis and treatment of this disease.

It is very important to keep in mind in spinal cord injured patients that they are more susceptible to priapism so the dosage of viagra type drugs has to be monitored closely.

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)