

## Notice of Independent Review Decision

**DATE OF REVIEW:** 12/26/2013

**IRO CASE #:**

### **DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICE OR SERVICES IN DISPUTE**

Physical therapy 3X3weeks

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

The TMF physician reviewer is a board certified orthopedic surgeon with an unrestricted license to practice in the state of Texas. The physician is in active practice and is familiar with the treatment or proposed treatment.

### **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)

Provide a description of the review outcome that clearly states whether or not medical necessity exists for each of the health care services in dispute.

It is determined that the Physical Therapy 3X3weeks are not medically necessary to treat this patient's condition.

### **INFORMATION PROVIDED TO THE IRO FOR REVIEW**

- Information for requesting a review by an IRO – 12/12/13
- Decision letter – 11/05/13, 11/20/13
- Request for Pre-Authorization from Rehabilitation – 10/31/13, 11/20/13
- Plan of care – 10/16/13
- Appeal for therapy – 11/15/13
- Office visit notes – 07/24/13, 11/06/13

- Operative note – 11/09/12
- Report of x-rays of the femur – 07/24/13, 09/25/13, 11/06/13

**PATIENT CLINICAL HISTORY [SUMMARY]:**

The patient sustained a work related injury xx/xx/xx resulting in a fracture in the neck of the right femur. He underwent a right intramedullary rodding of the intertrochanteric fracture on 11/09/12. He has also undergone a right hip exchange of lag screw and is progressing well. There is a request for the patient to continue physical therapy at 3x a week for 3 weeks.

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

The patient suffers persistent pain the right hip which has been attributed to early phases of osteoarthritis. He has restored functional near normal range of motion and muscle strength. Unfortunately, his right lower extremity is shortened and he requires ambulation aid. He has received approximately 50 sessions of physical therapy. The patient has received supervised physical therapy as a consequence of the original injury, surgery and complications. He should be capable of home exercise program. Medical necessity for continued supervised physical therapy has not been established. The prior denials of this request to continued supervised physical therapy were appropriate and should be upheld.

**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)