

**NOTICE OF INDEPENDENT REVIEW DETERMINATION**

MDR Tracking Number: M2-04-1428-01  
IRO Certificate Number: 5259

July 6, 2004

An independent review of the above-referenced case has been completed by a chiropractic doctor. The appropriateness of setting and medical necessity of proposed or rendered services is determined by the application of medical screening criteria published by Texas Medical Foundation, or by the application of medical screening criteria and protocols formally established by practicing physicians. All available clinical information, the medical necessity guidelines and the special circumstances of said case was considered in making the determination.

The independent review determination and reasons for the determination, including the clinical basis for the determination, is as follows:

See Attached Physician Determination

\_\_\_ hereby certifies that the reviewing physician is on Texas Workers' Compensation Commission Approved Doctor List (ADL). Additionally, said physician has certified that no known conflicts of interest exist between him and any of the treating physicians or providers or any of the physicians or providers who reviewed the case for determination prior to referral to \_\_\_.

Sincerely,

CLINICAL HISTORY

Patient received treatment, including lumbar epidural injections, after injuring his low back while lifting cases of soft drinks at work on \_\_\_.

REQUESTED SERVICE(S)

Chronic Pain Program X 10 sessions.

DECISION

Denied.

RATIONALE/BASIS FOR DECISION

A chronic pain management program should be the last resort in patient care, and utilized only when all other options have been explored and proved unsuccessful. In this case, there is significant documentation that the patient is in need of lumbar spine surgery based on the 02/19/04 MRI report revealing evidence of disc bulges at L4-5 and L5-S1 and the 06/03/04 \_\_\_ report indicating that surgery is indicated and has been scheduled for

07/19/04. Therefore, a chronic pain management program at this time is premature, not medically indicated and possibly contraindicated.

#### YOUR RIGHT TO REQUEST A HEARING

Either party to this medical dispute may disagree with all or part of the decision and has a right to request a hearing.

**If disputing a spinal surgery prospective decision** a request for a hearing must be in writing, and it must be received by the TWCC Chief Clerk of Proceedings within **10** (ten) calendar days of your receipt of this decision (20 Tex. Admin. Code 142.5©).

**If disputing other prospective medical necessity (preauthorization) decisions** a request for a hearing must be in writing, and it must be received by the TWCC Chief Clerk of Proceedings within **20** (twenty) calendar days of your receipt of this decision (28 Tex. Admin. Code 148.3).

This decision is deemed received by you 5 (five) days after it was mailed or the date of fax (28 Tex. Admin. Code 102.4(h) or 102.5(d)). A request for a hearing and a **copy of this decision** must be sent to:

Chief Clerk of Proceedings/Appeals Clerk  
Texas Workers' Compensation Commission  
P.O. Box 17787  
Austin, Texas 78744

Or fax the request to (512) 804-4011. A copy of this decision must be attached to the request.

The party appealing the decision shall deliver a copy of its written request for a hearing to the opposing party involved in the dispute.

In accordance with Commission Rule 102.4(h), I hereby verify that a copy of this Independent Review Organization (IRO) Decision was sent to the carrier, the requestor and claimant via facsimile or U.S. Postal Service from the office of the IRO on this 7th day of July, 2004.