

## **NOTICE OF INDEPENDENT REVIEW DETERMINATION**

MDR Tracking Number: M2-04-1504-01  
IRO Certificate Number: 5259

July 30, 2004

An independent review of the above-referenced case has been completed by a medical physician board certified in physical medicine and rehabilitation. 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

Records reviewed include:

1. \_\_\_\_'s notes from 3/22 and 5/20/04
2. Physical Evaluation and Impairment report from 3/23/04 by \_\_\_\_.
3. Designated doctor appointment on 8/26/03 by \_\_\_\_.
4. Left foot MRI report from 12/18/02.
5. Three phase bone scan of the foot and ankles report from 10/21/02.

6. \_\_\_\_ physical therapy notes from 7/9/02 through 9/12/02.

61-year-old male who, on \_\_\_\_, twisted his left foot/ankle. He has chronic left foot and ankle pain and edema despite arthroscopic debridement and conservative care.

REQUESTED SERVICE(S)

2 lumbar sympathetic blocks with fluoroscopy guidance.

DECISION

Uphold denial.

RATIONALE/BASIS FOR DECISION

Sympathetic blockade only produces significant residual clinical improvement if used early in this syndrome. Please see Neural Blockade, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. MJ Cousins, 1998.

## 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 2nd day of August, 2004.