

Parker Healthcare Management Organization, Inc.

3719 N. Beltline Road, Irving, TX 75038

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Certificate # 5301

August 10, 2005

ATTN: Program Administrator
Texas Workers Compensation Commission
Medical Dispute Resolution, MS-48
7551 Metro Center Drive, Suite 100
Austin, TX 78744
Delivered by fax: 512.804.4868

Notice of Determination

MDR TRACKING NUMBER: M2-05-2017-01
RE: Independent review for ____

The independent review for the patient named above has been completed.

- Parker Healthcare Management received notification of independent review on 7.15.05.
- Faxed request for provider records made on 7.15.05.
- The case was assigned to a reviewer on 8.2.05.
- The reviewer rendered a determination on 8.9.05.
- The Notice of Determination was sent on 8.10.05.

The findings of the independent review are as follows:

Questions for Review

Medical necessity of the proposed purchase of a RS-4i Sequential, 4-channel combo interferential/muscle stimulator

Determination

PHMO, Inc. has performed an independent review of the proposed care to determine if the adverse determination was appropriate. After review of all medical records received from both parties involved, the PHMO, Inc. physician reviewer has determined to **uphold the denial** for the requested service(s).

Summary of Clinical History

Ms. ____ sustained a work related job injury on ____, while employed with _____.

Clinical Rationale

1. Does not meet CMS policy.
 - a. Not approved in chronic conditions.
2. On March 15, 2005, Dr. Samuel Alianell stated that the unit was approved for acute and chronic pain and relaxation of muscle spasms. Yet, on May 17, 2005, the patient received a prescription for Vicodin and Flexeril for pain and increased muscle spasms, even though the patient stated

that she had spasms while on Flexeril. The note of May 17, 2005 stated that the patient had an alteration in the ADL, mentation, concentration, word finding/processing, ability to fall or stay asleep, socialization, vocational activities, motivation, self esteem, mood/excitability/anxiety, repetitive motion, fine or gross motor skills, environmental sensibilities, ability to sit, walk, transition, ride, remain immobilized, and appetite – all while supposedly benefiting from the use of the RS-41 sequential, 4-channel combo interferential/muscle stimulator.

3. There is no evidence based on the peer-reviewed study that documents its efficiency in terms of treatment that enhances healing or increases local blood circulation or muscle re-education. Even if there *were*, in this case, the patient has not benefited from it based upon a review of the available records.

Clinical Criteria, Utilization Guidelines or other material referenced

This conclusion is supported by the reviewers' clinical experience with over 15 years of patient care and orthopedic surgery.

The reviewer for this case is a Medical Doctor licensed by the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners. The reviewer is a diplomate of the American Board of Orthopedic Surgery, and is engaged in the full time practice of medicine.

The review was performed in accordance with Texas Insurance Code §21.58C and the rules of the Texas Workers Compensation Commission. In accordance with the act and the rules, the review is listed on the TWCC's list of approved providers, or has a temporary exemption. The review includes the determination and the clinical rationale to support the determination. Specific utilization review criteria or other treatment guidelines used in this review are referenced.

The reviewer signed a certification attesting that no known conflicts-of-interest exist between the reviewer and any of the providers or other parties associated with this case. The reviewer also attests that the review was performed without any bias for or against the patient, carrier, or other parties associated with this case.

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. A request for hearing must be in writing and it must be received by the TWCC Chief Clerk of Proceedings/Appeals Clerk within 20 (twenty) 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 and the first working day after the date this Decision was placed in the carrier representative's box (28 Tex. Admin. Code § 102.5 (d)). A request for hearing should be sent to: Chief Clerk of Proceeding/Appeals , P.O. Box 17787, Austin, Texas 78744 or faxed to (512) 804-4011. A copy of this Decision should be attached to the request. The party appealing the Division's Decision shall deliver a copy of this written request for a hearing to the opposing party involved in the dispute.

I hereby verify that a copy of this Findings and Decision was faxed to TWCC, Medical Dispute Resolution department, the requestor (if different from the patient) and the respondent. I hereby verify that a copy of this Findings and Decision was mailed to the injured worker (the requestor) applicable to Commission Rule 102.5 this 10th day of August 2005. Per Commission Rule 102.5(d), the date received is deemed to be 5 (five) days from the date mailed and the first working day after the date this Decision was placed in the carrier representative's box.

Meredith Thomas
Administrator
Parker Healthcare Management Organization, Inc.

CC: RS Medical
Attn: Joe Basham
Fax: 800.929.1930

American Home Assurance/Dean Pappas Law Firm
Attn: Renee Keeney
Fax: 512.374.0840

[Claimant]