

# Parker Healthcare Management Organization, Inc.

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Certificate # 5301

August 16, 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: M2-05-2102-01  
RE: Independent review for \_\_\_\_

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

- Parker Healthcare Management received notification of independent review on 7.19.05.
- Faxed request for provider records made on 7.20.05.
- The case was assigned to a reviewer on 8.4.05.
- The reviewer rendered a determination on 8.12.05.
- The Notice of Determination was sent on 8.16.05.

The findings of the independent review are as follows:

### Questions for Review

Medical necessity of the proposed purchase of RS4I 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**.

### Summary of Clinical History

Ms. \_\_\_\_ sustained a work related job injury on \_\_\_\_, while employed \_\_\_\_\_.

### Clinical Rationale

There is no peer review study that is randomized and controlled that establishes the use of the muscle stimulator unit as a treatment for chronic pain. The only randomized study for non-acute low back pain indicated a need for ongoing physical therapy, as part of the treatment and the electrical stimulation was

discontinued at the 2 month interval. There is no study that establishes the cervical spine and cervical musculature in terms of chronic pain or states that there is benefit in the use of the RS4I Sequential 4-channel combo inferential/muscle stimulator.

There are no trials that indicate the support for protracted use electrical modalities such as the RS4I muscle stimulator for greater than 2 months for the treatment and management of chronic cervical spine pain with or without radiculopathy.

Therefore, the denial is upheld.

## Clinical Criteria, Utilization Guidelines or other material referenced

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

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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 16<sup>th</sup> 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.

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Meredith Thomas  
Administrator  
Parker Healthcare Management Organization, Inc.

CC: RS Medical  
Attn: Joe Basham  
Fax: 800.929.1930

TASB Risk Management  
Attn: Jackie Rosga  
Fax: 888.777.8272

[Claimant]