

June 28, 2006

VIA FACSIMILE  
American Home Assurance  
Attention: Renee Keeney

### NOTICE OF INDEPENDENT REVIEW DECISION

**RE: MDR Tracking #: M2-06-1472-01**  
**DWC #: \_\_\_\_\_**  
**Injured Employee: \_\_\_\_\_**  
**Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_**  
**Respondent: American Home Assurance**  
**MAXIMUS Case #: TW06-0096**

MAXIMUS has been certified by the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) as an independent review organization (IRO). The MAXIMUS IRO Certificate Number is 5348. The TDI, Division of Workers Compensation (DWC) has assigned this case to MAXIMUS in accordance with Rule §133.308, which allows for a dispute resolution by an IRO.

MAXIMUS has performed an independent review of the proposed care to determine whether or not the adverse determination was appropriate. Relevant medical records, documentation provided by the parties referenced above and other documentation and written information submitted regarding this appeal was reviewed during the performance of this independent review.

This case was reviewed by a practicing chiropractor on the MAXIMUS external review panel who is familiar with the condition and treatment options at issue in this appeal. This case was also reviewed by a practicing chiropractor on the MAXIMUS external review panel who is familiar with the condition and treatment options at issue in this appeal. The reviewer has met the requirements for the approved doctor list (ADL) of DWC or have been approved as an exception to the ADL requirement. A certification was signed that the reviewing chiropractic provider has no known conflicts of interest between that provider and the injured employee, the injured employee's employer, the injured employee's insurance carrier, the utilization review agent, or any of the treating doctors or insurance carrier health care providers who reviewed the case for decision before referral to the IRO, was signed. In addition, the MAXIMUS chiropractic reviewer certified that the review was performed without bias for or against any party in this case.

#### Clinical History

This case concerns an adult male who had a work related injury on \_\_\_\_\_. The specific details pertaining to the member's injury were not provided in the case file documentation. Diagnoses included other herniation of abdominal cavity, sciatica, and thoracic and lumbosacral radiculitis. Treatment has included chiropractic services.

### Requested Services

Preauthorization for chiropractic treatment to include physical therapy; 97140-manual therapy technique, G0283-electrical stimulation unattended, 97110-therapeutic exercises, 97112-neuromuscular re-education, 98940-chiropractic manipulation 3 X WK X 6 WKS (18 additional visits).

### Documents and/or information used by the reviewer to reach a decision:

#### *Documents Submitted by Requestor:*

1. None provided

#### *Documents Submitted by Respondent:*

1. Determination Notice – 4/25/06

### Decision

The Carrier's denial of authorization for the requested services is upheld.

### Standard of Review

This MAXIMUS determination is based upon generally accepted standard and medical literature regarding the condition and services/supplies in the appeal.

### Rationale/Basis for Decision

The MAXIMUS chiropractor consultant indicated there is insufficient documentation in the case file to support the medical necessity of the requested services. The MAXIMUS chiropractor consultant noted that complete clinical records demonstrating how the member's care is progressing is necessary to determine if additional services are indicated.

Therefore, the MAXIMUS physician consultant concluded that the requested preauthorization for chiropractic treatment to include physical therapy; 97140-manual therapy technique, G0283-electrical stimulation unattended, 97110-therapeutic exercises, 97112-neuromuscular re-education, 98940-chiropractic manipulation 3 X WK X 6 WKS (18 additional visits) is not medically necessary for treatment of the member's condition.

### **Your Right To Appeal**

If you are unhappy with all or part of this decision, you have the right to appeal the decision. The decision of the Independent Review Organization is binding during the appeal process.

If you are disputing the decision (other than a spinal surgery prospective decision), the appeal must be made directly to a district court in Travis County (see Texas Labor Code §413.031). An appeal to District Court must be filed not later than 30 days after the date on which the decision that is the subject of the appeal is final and appealable. If you are disputing a spinal surgery prospective decision, a request for a hearing must be in writing and it must be received by the

Division of Workers' Compensation, Chief Clerk of Proceedings, within ten (10) days of your receipt of this decision.

Sincerely,  
**MAXIMUS**

Lisa Gebbie, MS, RN  
State Appeals Department

cc: Division of Workers Compensation

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 28th day of June 2006.

Signature of IRO Employee: \_\_\_\_\_  
External Appeals Department