

SOUTHWEST MEDICAL EXAMINATION SERVICES, INC.
7502 GREENVILLE AVENUE
SUITE 600
DALLAS, TEXAS 75231
(214) 750-6110
FAX (214) 750-5825

February 8, 2007

Re: Medical Dispute Resolution
MDR# M2-07-0446-01
DWC# _____
Injured Employee: _____
DOI: _____
SS#: _____
IRO Certificate #: IRO5313
Name of Requestor: _____
Name of Provider: Suhail Al-Sahli, D.C.
Reviewed by: Diplomate of the American Chiropractic Neurology Board

TRANSMITTED VIA FAX TO:

Medical Dispute Resolution
TDI-Division of Workers' Compensation
FAX: 512-804-4868

Dear Mr. ____:

In accordance with the requirements for TDI-Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) to randomly assign cases to IROs, DWC has assigned your case to Southwest Medical Examination Services, Inc. (SMES) for an independent review. In performing this review, SMES reviewed relevant medical records, any documents provided by the parties referenced above, and documentation and written information submitted in support of the dispute.

I am an officer of Southwest Medical Examination Services, Inc. and I certify that the reviewing physician in this case has certified to our organization that there are no known conflicts of interest that exist between him and any of the treating physicians or other health care providers or any of the physicians or other health care providers who reviewed this case for determination prior to referral to the Independent Review Organization.

The independent review was performed by a matched peer with the treating health care provider. Your case was reviewed by a physician who is a Diplomate of the American Chiropractic Neurology Board, and is currently listed on the DWC Approved Doctor List.

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Information Provided for Review:

Medical records from the Respondent include:

- Houston Fire Department, 10/10/05
- N.B.C. Health Care Center, 10/13/05, 10/18/05, 10/19/05, 10/20/05, 10/21/05, 10/24/05, 10/25/05, 10/26/05, 10/27/05, 10/28/05, 10/31/05, 11/02/05, 11/03/05, 11/07/05, 11/09/05, 11/11/05, 11/14/05, 11/16/05, 11/18/05, 11/21/05, 11/23/05, 11/30/05, 12/02/05, 12/06/05, 12/09/05, 12/13/05, 12/14/05, 12/16/05, 12/19/05, 12/22/05, 12/23/05, 12/28/05, 12/30/05, 01/04/06, 01/06/06, 01/11/06, 01/13/06, 01/16/06, 01/18/06, 01/23/06, 01/25/06, 03/01/06, 03/03/06, 03/06/06, 03/10/06, 03/13/06, 03/15/06, 03/24/06, 03/27/06, 03/29/06, 05/08/06, 05/17/06, 05/19/06, 05/22/06, 05/24/06, 05/31/06, 06/06/06, 06/13/06, 06/15/06, 06/21/06, 06/22/06, 06/23/06, 06/27/06, 06/28/06, 06/29/06, 07/06/06, 07/07/06, 07/12/06, 07/18/06, 07/26/06, 10/20/06, 11/02/06, 11/07/06, 11/17/06, 11/22/06, 11/29/06, 12/09/06, 12/13/06, 12/15/06, 12/27/06, 01/03/07
- Stand-Up MRI of Clear Lake, 10/24/05, 10/25/05
- Rezik A. Saqer, M.D., 10/28/05, 11/11/05, 01/23/06, 02/14/06, 03/27/06, 04/17/06, 05/01/06, 05/19/06, 05/26/06, 06/02/06, 06/20/06, 06/30/06, 07/14/06, 07/28/06, 08/11/06, 08/25/06, 09/15/06, 09/29/06, 10/13/06, 11/03/06, 11/10/06, 11/15/06, 11/17/06, 12/15/06
- Nassau Bay Rehab, 11/18/05, 11/21/05, 01/06/06, 01/09/06, 05/08/06, 05/10/06, 05/15/06, 05/24/06, 05/26/06, 05/31/06, 06/01/06, 06/02/06, 06/06/06, 06/07/06, 06/08/06, 06/13/06, 06/15/06, 06/21/06, 06/22/06, 06/23/06, 06/27/06, 06/28/06, 07/12/06, 07/13/06, 07/18/06, 07/20/06, 07/31/06, 08/01/06, 08/02/06, 08/03/06, 08/04/06, 08/07/06, 08/08/06, 08/09/06, 08/10/06, 08/11/06, 08/14/06, 08/15/06, 08/16/06, 08/17/06, 08/18/06, 08/21/06, 08/22/06, 08/23/06, 08/24/06, 08/25/06, 08/28/06, 08/29/06, 08/30/06, 08/31/06, 09/01/06, 09/04/06, 09/05/06, 09/06/06, 09/07/06, 09/08/06, 09/11/06, 09/12/06, 09/13/06, 09/14/06, 09/15/06, 09/17/06, 09/18/06, 09/19/06, 09/20/06, 09/21/06, 09/22/06, 09/24/06, 09/25/06, 09/26/06, 09/27/06, 09/28/06, 09/29/06, 10/02/06, 10/03/06, 10/04/06, 10/05/06, 10/06/06, 12/02/06
- Ian J. Reynolds, M.D., 11/21/05, 01/18/06, 03/24/06, 03/30/06, 04/10/06, 04/24/06, 05/31/06, 09/20/06, 10/09/06
- Ultra Diagnostics, 12/09/05, 12/27/05
- Suhail S. Al-Sahli, D.C., 12/14/05, 10/11/06
- Fairmont Diagnostic Center, 12/28/05
- Paul Kobza, D.O., 03/08/06
- Houston Premier DME, 03/24/06

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- Upright MRI of Clear Lake, 03/27/06
- Kendil C. Bienfang, L.S.A., 03/27/06, 04/10/06, 04/24/06, 05/31/06, 08/07/06, 09/20/06, 10/09/06
- Texas Pain Solutions, 06/20/06, 08/15/06
- Insight Medical Diagnostics, 06/20/06
- IMED, 10/04/06
- Aaron M. Levine, M.D., 10/23/06
- Integra Medical Clinic, 11/15/06

Medical records from the Treating Doctor include:

- Stand-Up MRI of Clear Lake, 10/24/05, 10/25/05
- Ultra Diagnostics, 12/09/05, 12/27/05
- Fairmont Diagnostic Center, 12/28/05
- N.B.C. Health Care Center, 10/13/05
- Ian J. Reynolds, M.D., 11/21/05, 01/18/06, 03/30/06
- Rezik A. Saqer, M.D., 11/15/06

Clinical History:

This patient was injured while on the job and reportedly his head, neck, mid back, and left and right shoulder were all injured. He has been treating with Suhail S. Al-Sahli, D.C. He has also seen Ian J. Reynolds, M.D., who performed a right shoulder arthroscopy. He has had sacroiliac injections and blocks. He has had extensive physical therapy.

There is an MRI on October 24, 2005, which was normal with a moderate protrusion at C3-4 and C7 through T1, and left foraminal narrowing at C3-4. There is a right shoulder MRI that revealed intrasubstance tear of the supraspinatus. MRI of the lumbar spine revealed posterior protrusions at L4-5 and L5-S1.

There is a request to purchase a mattress. This appears to be a request for a Sealy mattress and box springs. These were denied based on CorVel medical necessity review.

Disputed Services:

Sealy Mattress and box springs

Decision:

Based on the information provided, I would disagree with the proposed purchase of a mattress.

Rationale:

This is a personal care item that is not proven overall to be curative or palliative as a treatment for this work related injury or any injury. Therefore, it should not be a therapeutic purchase.

This review was conducted on the basis of medical and administrative records provided with the assumption that the material is true and correct.

This decision by the reviewing physician with Southwest Medical Examination Services, Inc. is deemed to be a Division decision and order.

YOUR RIGHT TO REQUEST A HEARING

If you are unhappy with this decision, you may seek judicial review of the decision. (Texas Labor Code, 413.031k) To seek such an appeal, a petition for judicial review must be filed with the Travis County District Clerk's Office in Austin, Texas not later than 30 days after the date on which the decision that is the subject of the appeal is final and appealable. (Subchapter G, Chapter 2001, of the Texas Government Code) Neither the Department of Insurance nor the Division of Workers' Compensation is considered a party to the medical dispute in a judicial review. You may wish to consult with an attorney of your choice to assist you in filing an appeal. The Division of Workers' Compensation cannot assist or provide legal advice to you in this matter."

In accordance with Division Rule 102.4(b), I hereby certify that a copy of this Independent Review Organization (IRO) decision was sent to the carrier and the requestor and claimant via facsimile or US Postal Service from the office of the IRO on this 8th day of February 2007.

Sincerely,

John Turner
Southwest Medical Examination Services, Inc.