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Patient Clinical History (Summary)

X with a date of injury X. X. Minutes later, X started to experience X pain. The diagnoses were X.

X was seen by X, DO on X for a follow-up of X pain. The pain was referred to the X. This had been a recurring problem. On examination, the X showed moderate X. There was moderate X pain on the X. X perception on the X. X test was positive on the X pain.

An X of the X performed on X showed X. An x-ray of the X revealed moderate X.

Treatment to date included X.

Per a utilization review dated X by X, DO, the requested service of X was non-certified. Rationale: "According to an office note by Dr. X on X, there was documentation of the claimant having pain in the X. Physical exam revealed X exam was unremarkable. The diagnoses included X. The treatment plan included a X. Official Disability Guidelines were referenced regarding X. Based on a review of the submitted medical records, there was no documentation detailing what diagnostic workup has been done to correlate with the physical exam findings in helping to establish whether a positive objective X was occurring at a particular level. Therefore, this request for X is non-certified."

Per a letter dated X by X, MD, the reconsideration request for X was non-certified. Rationale: "Regarding X, Official Disability Guidelines

recommend it to facilitate active treatment programs for X that is not related to X that is well-documented and supported by imaging studies. Additionally, the pain is also unresponsive to conservative treatment. Proceeding with a X does not appear to be warranted. The claimant has no documented findings of a X. There is also no reported X. Based upon this, the prospective request X is non-certified.”

Analysis and Explanation of the Decision include Clinical Basis, Findings and Conclusions used to support the decision.

The Official Disability Guidelines discusses X. X may be indicated early in the course of an injury typically caused by a X. The goal of such an X is to facilitate initial active functional restoration. Such an x is indicated when there are symptoms, examination findings, diagnostic studies correlating to confirm such a x.

The medical records in this case are those of X findings on examination as well as radiographically suggesting x. The medical records do not outline an X likely to result in meaningful or meaningfully prolonged benefit from an X. For these reasons, currently, the request is not medically necessary.

A description and the source of the screening criteria or other clinical basis used to make the decision:

- ACOEM-America College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
- AHRQ-Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Guidelines
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- DWC-Division of Workers Compensation Policies and Guidelines
- European Guidelines for Management of Chronic Low Back Pain
- Interqual Criteria
- Medical Judgment, Clinical Experience, and expertise in accordance with accepted medical standards
- Mercy Center Consensus Conference Guidelines
- Milliman Care Guidelines
- ODG-Official Disability Guidelines and Treatment Guidelines

- Pressley Reed, the Medical Disability Advisor
- Texas Guidelines for Chiropractic Quality Assurance and Practice Parameters
- TMF Screening Criteria Manual
- Peer Reviewed Nationally Accepted Medical Literature (Provide a description)
- Other evidence based, scientifically valid, outcome focused guidelines (Provide a description)

Appeal Information

You have the right to appeal this IRO decision by requesting a Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (Division) Contested Case Hearing (CCH). A Division CCH can be requested by filing a written appeal with the Division's Chief Clerk no later than 20 days after the date the IRO decision is sent to the appealing party and must be filed in the form and manner required by the Division.

Request for or a Division CCH must be in writing and sent to:
Chief Clerk of Proceedings Texas Department of Insurance
Division of Workers' Compensation P. O. Box 17787
Austin, Texas, 78744

For questions regarding the appeals process, please contact the Chief Clerk of Proceedings at 512-804-4075 or 512- 804-4010. You may also contact the Division Field Office nearest you at 1-800-252-7031.