



Jonathan F. Kohan, M.D.

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Patient Name : Pepper Smith
Date of Service : February 10, 2023
Claim # : 06758786
Employer : State of California Betty T Yee State
Date of Birth : May 22, 1971
Date of Injury : 07/31/2021
CT:7/31/2021 to 7/31/2022
File # : 20078796

SECONDARY PHYSICIAN PAIN MANAGEMENT FOLLOW-UP REPORT AND REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION

This special narrative report is reimbursable (1994) Official Medical Fee Schedule because one of the following: There was an unexpected or significant change in the patient's condition or the treatment plan; there is a change in patient care or status; submitted records were reviewed or specific questions were answered.

INTERIM HISTORY:

The patient is back in my office today following the previous clinical visit.

We have now received an MRI study of the cervical spine which was reviewed in detail today. This does show a multilevel disc herniation as well as posterior listhesis and Modic type 2 endplate changes with loss of vertebral body height at the C5-C6. There is also varying degree of disc desiccation from C2 down to C7. Most notably, there is also disc herniation noted at the level of the C5-C6 which is a 2.7 mm with abutment of the exiting nerve roots. There is also a 3.1 mm disc deformity noted at the C6-C7 with left uncovertebral joint hypertrophy with left neural foraminal narrowing.

In review of the MRI study of the cervical spine does correlate with the patient's ongoing complaints of left upper extremity radiculopathy as well as pain in the neck itself.

The patient has been undergoing conservative treatment and at this point, she states that she is interested in pursuing additional treatment

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options including cervical epidural injection which were discussed in detail today.

She states her overall pain level today is 7/10. She has difficulty with lifting, pushing, pulling, bending, twisting, turning, stooping, and difficulty with gripping and grasping, and difficulty use of the left upper extremity as well as pain in the neck is constant.

She is also continuing to utilize antiinflammatory medications which will be refilled today.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION:

Physical examination shows spasm, tenderness, and guarding noted over the paravertebral muscles of the cervical spine with a decreased range of motion on flexion, extension, and lateral bending. Positive Spurling's is noted on the left with a decreased dermatomal sensation over the left C6 and C7 dermatomal distributions. Examination of the shoulder does show mild diffuse tenderness over the anterior deltoid. Impingement was inconclusive. Wrist extension strength was 4/5 and reflexes are within normal limits.

CLINICAL IMPRESSIONS:

Bilateral wrist sprain/strain with potential de Quervain's tenosynovitis and carpal tunnel syndrome.

Bilateral medial epicondylitis.

Bilateral shoulder sprain/strain with impingement on the left.

Cervical radiculopathy.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Further treatment options were discussed. All conditions, risks, alternatives, and benefits were discussed in detail. The patient verbalized an understanding. The option of the cervical epidural injection was once again discussed and the patient did wish to proceed. Again, she has exhausted conservative treatment in the form of physiotherapy, activity modification, as well as antiinflammatory medication use. Unfortunately her pain does continue to persist and we do believe that the patient's ongoing complaints are related to the pathology which was noted on the MRI study. *I am, therefore, requesting authorization for a cervical epidural injection at the level of the C6-C7 which is the highest level in which the injection can be provided.*

Medications will be refilled today. She will be reevaluated again in four to six weeks' time. She is agreeable to this plan. All questions were answered during today's clinical visit. Work restrictions as well as permanent and stationary status have been deferred.

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I hope the above information has been helpful to you and if I can provide you with any further information, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

We are requesting that all the patient medical records, related or unrelated to this case be sent to our attention for review which will be incorporated in accessing the treatment and medical legal issues.

I declare, under penalty of perjury, that I have not violated the provisions of California Labor Code 139.3 and that the contents of this report and attached billing are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I also affirm that I have not violated any sections of Labor Code 4628. Please see attached itemized billing with ICD-10 diagnosis code(s). The foregoing declaration is executed on the date of this report and signed by myself in the County of Los Angeles. Please be advised that Dr. Kohan has a financial interest in the Pacific Anesthesia Group.



Jared Toller PA-C

February 20,
2023

Date



Jonathan F. Kohan, M.D.
Diplomate American Board of
Anesthesiology
Fellowship-Trained in Pain
Medicine

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6221 Wilshire Blvd. #604 {By Fairfax}
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February 10, 2023
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PO BOX 65005
Fresno, CA 93650
Attn: James Kim

PROOF OF SERVICE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

I am employed in the County of Los Angeles. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action; my business address is:

5651 SEPULVEDA BLVD., SUITE 201, SHERMAN OAKS, CA 91411

On 2/21/2023 served the foregoing document described as:

JONATHAN F. KOHAN, M.D.
EVALUATION REPORT

Patient Name: Pepper Smith

File Number: 20078796

Claim #: 06758786

DOS: 2/10/2023

On all interested parties in this action by electronic transmission a true copy of this narrative report from **5651 SEPULVEDA BLVD., SUITE 201, SHERMAN OAKS, CA 91411**

Addressed as follows:

Eric Gofnung, DC
Dr. Gofnung
6221 Wilshire Blvd. #604 (By Fairfax)
Los Angeles, CA 90048

Workers Defenders Law Group
8018 E. Santa Ana Cny #100-215
Anaheim Hills, CA 92808

James Kim
SCIF - LA (CLM# ENDING IN 00-49)
PO BOX 65005
Fresno, CA 93650

I declare that I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to this action. I also declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on 2/21/2023 at



Emily Shemwell