

April 17, 2014

<Payor Information>

Re,<Patient Name>

ID: <ID#>

Claim #:

Date of Service: <00/00/2014>

Total Charges: \$<0>

Please reconsider payment for Q4038 charges. We ask for individual consideration for these supplies. <Patient Name> has been treated <Insert diagnosis, reason for TCC>. There has been great improvement since applying the total contact cast. The TCC (total contact casting) treatment was first started on <date> at <insert name of facility> Wound Care Center. The dimensions of the ulceration on that date were –length <X>cm x width <X>cm x depth <X cm>. <Insert historical treatment attempted>. On <insert date>, 2014, <X> months after the initial application of weekly TCC treatments, the dimensions of the wound are now < length 0.0 cm x width X cm x depth X cm>. Attached you will see a copy of the culture results mentioned above. No other treatment has had such great results <Patient Name>.

The application of TCC is identified by the Current Procedure Terminology code 29445 (*Application of rigid total contact leg cast*). Unlike most CPT® codes, the layers of casting materials (plastic and fiberglass) are not included in service code 29445. Therefore, we had to incur the expense of the casting materials. We request reconsideration of the payment of the supplies. Enclosed you will also find a copy of an article describing the efficacy and cost-effectiveness of the TCC treatment.

Application of TCC is considered the Gold Standard treatment for pressure offloading as supported in the clinical literature including a Cochrane review. The 2013 Cochrane review states: “Non-removable casts provide the most effective pressure relieving intervention for the healing of diabetic foot ulcers.”<sup>1</sup> Additionally, TCC was addressed in a Consensus Panel, who concluded ‘The TCC is the ideal method and is supported by the highest level of evidence’.<sup>2</sup>

The success of the healing rate of TCC at 30 days is better than all other modalities of the same time range. This is further evidence that TCC is the gold standard for healing diabetic foot ulcers.

Again, please reconsider payment for the supply codes Q4038. If I can be of assistance, please call me at <insert phone number>.

Thank you,

Office Manager

<sup>1</sup>Lewis J, Lipp A. Pressure-relieving interventions for treating diabetic foot ulcers. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2013, Issue 1. Art. No.: CD002302. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD002302.pub2

<sup>2</sup>Robert J Snyder, DPM; Robert S Kirsner, MD; Robert A Warriner, III MD; Lawrence A Lavery, DPM; Jason R Hanft, DPM; Peter Sheehan, MD. *Ostomy Wound Management*. 2010;56(Suppl 4):S1-S24