

Case Number:	CM13-0016434		
Date Assigned:	03/03/2014	Date of Injury:	11/16/2005
Decision Date:	04/22/2014	UR Denial Date:	08/16/2013
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	08/26/2013

HOW THE IMR FINAL DETERMINATION WAS MADE

MAXIMUS Federal Services sent the complete case file to an expert reviewer. He/she has no affiliation with the employer, employee, providers or the claims administrator. The expert reviewer is Board Certified in Family Medicine and is licensed to practice in Utah. He/she has been in active clinical practice for more than five years and is currently working at least 24 hours a week in active practice. The expert reviewer was selected based on his/her clinical experience, education, background, and expertise in the same or similar specialties that evaluate and/or treat the medical condition and disputed items/services. He/she is familiar with governing laws and regulations, including the strength of evidence hierarchy that applies to Independent Medical Review determinations.

CLINICAL CASE SUMMARY

The expert reviewer developed the following clinical case summary based on a review of the case file, including all medical records:

The patient is a 58-year-old. The patient's date of injury is November 16, 2005. The mechanism of injury is unclear according to the clinical documents. The patient has been diagnosed with left shoulder impingement, cervical spine strain, cervical discopathy, bilateral lateral epicondylitis, and wrist pain. The physical exam findings show tenderness to the acromioclavicular joint. There is tenderness on the medial and lateral epicondyles of the elbow. There is pain with overhead reach. Impingement sign is mildly positive.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

The Final Determination was based on decisions for the disputed items/services set forth below:

FLUR/CYCLO CREAM, 15/10%, 180GM, DISPENSED ON 7/11/2013: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Cyclobenzapine Section..

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Cyclobenzapine Section Page(s): 41-42.

Decision rationale: The Chronic Pain Medical Treatment Guidelines were reviewed in regards to this specific case, and the clinical documents were reviewed. The request is for Flur/Cyclo cream. The Chronic Pain Medical Treatment Guidelines state the following: There is no evidence for support the use of Cyclobenzaprine as a topical product. Guidelines also state that addition of

cyclobenzaprine to other agents in not recommended. The request for Fluro/Cyclo Cream 15/10%, 10 grams, dispensed on July 11, 2013, is not medically necessary or appropriate.

**TRAM/GABA/MENTH/CAMP/CAP CREAM, 8/10/2/0.5%, 180GM, DISPENSED
7/11/2013: Upheld**

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Gababentin, Topical Section, as well as the Capsaicin, Topical Sec.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Topical Analgesics Section Page(s): 111-113.

Decision rationale: The Chronic Pain Medical Treatment Guidelines were reviewed in regards to this specific case. Other guidelines were also searched including the Official Disability Guide and California Chronic Pain Medical Treatment Guidelines. The clinical documents were reviewed. Tram/Gaba/Menth/Camp/Cap cream. The Chronic Pain Medical Treatment Guidelines discuss compounding medications. The guidelines state that a compounded medicine, that contains at least one drug (or class of medications) that is not recommended, is not recommended for use. The guidelines also state that topical analgesics are largely experimental in use with few randomized controlled trials to determine efficacy or safety. The Chronic Pain Medical Treatment Guidelines does not specifically address Tram/Gaba/Menth/Camp/Cap cream as a topical analgesic. Therefore, according to the guidelines cited, it can not be recommended at this time. The request for Tram/Gaba/Menth/Camp/Cap cream . 8/10/2/0.5%, 180 grams, dispensed on July 11, 2013, is not medically necessary or appropriate.