

Case Number:	CM13-0017554		
Date Assigned:	11/06/2013	Date of Injury:	04/17/2004
Decision Date:	01/14/2014	UR Denial Date:	08/05/2013
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	08/26/2013

HOW THE IMR FINAL DETERMINATION WAS MADE

MAXIMUS Federal Services sent the complete case file to a physician reviewer. He/she has no affiliation with the employer, employee, providers or the claims administrator. The physician reviewer is Board Certified in internal medicine, and is licensed to practice in New York. 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 physician 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.

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 38-year-old with a history of injury 4/7/04. The patient has been on a variety of medicines including Ambien, Toradol and Norco. On 7/24/13, the pt. presented with sciatica and was taking flector, ambien, norco, soma, and adipex. A urine drug screen was performed. A utilization reviewer denied coverage for this test, 8/5/13. An appeal was made 8/22/13.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

One qualitative urine drug screen: Overturned

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not cite any medical evidence for its decision.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 2 General Approach to Initial Assessment and Documentation Page(s): 77-94.

Decision rationale: The Physician Reviewer's decision rationale: Guidelines indicate that frequent random drug screens are step to avoid misuse of opioids, and to assess use or presence of illegal drugs. It is within the guidelines to get a random urine sample for a drug screen. The request for one qualitative urine drug screen is medically necessary and appropriate.