

Case Number:	CM13-0020311		
Date Assigned:	10/11/2013	Date of Injury:	07/14/2011
Decision Date:	02/10/2014	UR Denial Date:	08/20/2013
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	09/04/2013

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 Emergency Medicine and is licensed to practice in Florida. 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. 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:

Adult male with an injury date of 7/4/2011 while moving a copy machine and who has bilateral knee pain. The patient has had right knee arthroscopy, physical therapy, injections and activity modification. Patient is now seeking approval for a medical food product called Theramine

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Theramine: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG).

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG)

Decision rationale: Theramine is not addressed in the California MTUS Guidelines. The Official Disability Guidelines (ODG), Pain Chapter does not recommend Theramine. There are no high quality peer reviewed clinical trials recommending or supporting supplementation with GABA, Choline, L-Arginine or L-Serine. The ODG states that medical foods are not recommended, therefore the request is denied.