

<b>Case Number:</b>	CM13-0026096		
<b>Date Assigned:</b>	01/15/2014	<b>Date of Injury:</b>	07/07/2004
<b>Decision Date:</b>	03/20/2014	<b>UR Denial Date:</b>	09/10/2013
<b>Priority:</b>	Standard	<b>Application Received:</b>	09/18/2013

### 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 Occupational Medicine and is licensed to practice in California. 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:

This patient is a 59-year-old female with a 7/7/04 date of injury. At the time of the request for authorization for Dendracin lotion and Medrox patches, there is documentation of subjective (right knee stiffness) and objective (slight limp) findings. Her current diagnoses include internal derangement of right knee. Her treatment to date includes medications.

### IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

**Dendracin lotion 120ml:** Upheld

**Claims Administrator guideline:** Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Page(s): 112-113.

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

**Decision rationale:** Dendracin (Capsaicin/Menthol/Methyl Salicylate/Benzocaine) is a topical analgesic used for temporary relief of minor aches and pains caused by arthritis, simple backache, and strains. The Chronic Pain Medical Treatment Guidelines state that many agents are compounded as monotherapy or in combination for pain control; that ketoprofen, lidocaine (in creams, lotion or gels), capsaicin in a 0.0375% formulation, baclofen and other muscle relaxants, and gabapentin and other antiepilepsy drugs are not recommended for topical

applications; and that any compounded product that contains at least one non-recommended drug (or drug class), is not recommended for use. Within the medical information available for review, there is documentation of diagnosis of internal derangement of the right knee. However, Dendracin contains at least one drug (capsaicin in a 0.0375% formulation) that is not recommended. Therefore, based on the guidelines and a review of the evidence, the requested Dendracin lotion is not medically necessary or appropriate.

**Medrox patches #20:** Upheld

**Claims Administrator guideline:** Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Page(s): 112-113.

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

**Decision rationale:** Medrox cream is a compounded medication that includes 0.0375% Capsaicin, 20% Menthol, and 5% Methyl Salicylate. The Chronic Pain Medical Treatment Guidelines state that many agents are compounded as monotherapy or in combination for pain control; that ketoprofen, lidocaine (in creams, lotion or gels), capsaicin in a 0.0375% formulation, baclofen and other muscle relaxants, and gabapentin and other antiepilepsy drugs are not recommended for topical applications; and that any compounded product that contains at least one non-recommended drug (or drug class), is not recommended for use. Within the medical information available for review, there is documentation of a diagnosis of internal derangement of the right knee. However, Medrox cream contains at least one drug (capsaicin in a 0.0375% formulation) that is not recommended. Therefore, based on the guidelines and a review of the evidence, the requested for Medrox patches are not medically necessary or appropriate.