

Case Number:	CM13-0031555		
Date Assigned:	12/04/2013	Date of Injury:	01/13/2009
Decision Date:	01/29/2014	UR Denial Date:	09/23/2013
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	10/03/2013

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 Family Practice, 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:

The patient sustained a work-related injury on 1/13/09; his injuries were derived from repetitive strain. The current medical diagnoses are chronic neck and right shoulder pain, bilateral ulnar neuropathies, left shoulder tendonitis with impingement, and diabetic peripheral neuropathy.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

The request for Cymbalta ECC 60mg, #30: Overturned

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 9 Shoulder Complaints, Chapter 8 Neck and Upper Back Complaints, Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Page(s): 43-44.

Decision rationale: Cymbalta (duloxetine) is medically indicated for treating neuropathic pain, depression, and generalized anxiety disorder. As [REDACTED] states in his consultation note dated 10/13/13, this patient is being treated for bilateral ulnar neuropathies, diabetic peripheral neuropathy, and chronic pain. Based on this information, Cymbalta is certified for the dates in question: 9/18/13 and 11/2/13.