

Case Number:	CM13-0044086		
Date Assigned:	12/27/2013	Date of Injury:	05/16/2012
Decision Date:	02/24/2014	UR Denial Date:	10/25/2013
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	11/12/2013

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 Geriatrics 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. 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 injured worker is a woman who was injured on 5/16/12 when heavy boxes fell on his right side while he as pulling a dolly. At issue in this review is the denial of a urinalysis. She was seen by her medical provider on 10/7/13 and had diagnoses of myalgia/myositis, headache, pain in joint shoulder and cervical degeneration. There is no physical exam, subjective or objective findings documented. The treatment plan indicates that a urine toxicology screen was performed to monitor the patient's compliance with her pharmaceutical treatment regimen (including controlled substances). A urinalysis is not mentioned however, the records include prior urinalysis and urine drug testing of 2/2/5/13 showing that she had marijuana metabolites, butalbital, and hydrocodone and in her urine. Her urinalysis was unremarkable.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Urinalysis: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation National Center for Biotechnology Information

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Opioids, Steps to Avoid Misuse/Addiction Section Page(s): 94-95. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Merriam-Webster Medical Dictionary.

Decision rationale: At issue in this review is a urinalysis in an injured worker with myalgia/myositis, headache, pain in joint shoulder and cervical degeneration. Per the MTUS, random urine toxicology screens may be used to avoid the misuse and addiction of opioids. Per the on-line Merriam-Webster medical dictionary, a urinalysis is defined as laboratory examination of a urine sample for clinical information. Abnormal concentrations of substances normally found in urine or presence of those that are not may indicate a disorder. The color, specific gravity, or volume changes may reveal a specific disease or injury. Significant findings include high glucose and acetone in diabetes mellitus; various nitrogen compounds, pigments, amino acids, and their metabolic products in disorders of the enzymes that act on them; uric acid in gout; and urea, albumins, and globulins in kidney disease. Hormones may be evidence of pregnancy or endocrine imbalance. In this case, the injured worker's medical diagnoses do not warrant urinalysis evaluation as the records do not support the medical necessity for a urinalysis.