

Case Number:	CM13-0058970		
Date Assigned:	12/30/2013	Date of Injury:	08/24/2007
Decision Date:	04/03/2014	UR Denial Date:	11/01/2013
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	11/27/2013

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 Neurology, has a subspecialty in Neuromuscular 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:

██████████ is 52 year old woman who sustained a work related injury on August 24 2007. Subsequently she developed bilateral shoulder pain, neck pain and left shoulder pain. She underwent bilateral shoulder pain. She was treated with Tramadol, Hydrocodone and Relafen. According to the note of October 13 2013, there was no change in the patient condition. Her provider requested authorization for prescribing Lyrica.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Lyrica 50mg #60 w/ 2 refills: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Lyrica Page(s): 20.

Decision rationale: According to MTUS guidelines, Lyrica is an anti-epilepsy drug (AEDs - also referred to as anti-convulsants), which has been shown to be effective for treatment of diabetic painful neuropathy and postherpetic neuralgia and has been considered as a first-line treatment for neuropathic pain. There is no clear documentation of neuropathic pain in this

patient. In addition, there no clear proven efficacy of Lyrica for shoulder, neck and knee pain. .
Therefore, the Lyrica 50mg #60 w/ 2 refills is not medically necessary.