

Case Number:	CM13-0060794		
Date Assigned:	12/30/2013	Date of Injury:	12/31/1996
Decision Date:	05/12/2014	UR Denial Date:	11/26/2013
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	12/04/2013

HOW THE IMR FINAL DETERMINATION WAS MADE

MAXIMUS Federal Services sent the complete case file to an expert reviewer. He/she has no affiliation with the employer, employee, providers or the claims administrator. The expert reviewer is Board Certified in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, has a subspecialty in Pain Management 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 expert 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 is a patient with a date of injury of 12/31/96. A utilization review determination dated 11/26/13 recommends of Docuprene from #120 to #60. 10/4/13 medical report identifies that the patient utilizes opioids for pain relief and denies negative side effects from medication use.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

DOCUPRENE 100MG #120: 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), Pain Chapter

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Opioids, Page(s): 76-79.

Decision rationale: Regarding the request for Docuprene 100mg #120, California MTUS recommends prophylactic treatment for constipation for patients utilizing opioids. The dosage for Docuprene is 1-2 tablets per day. Within the documentation available for review, it appears that opioids were prescribed to treat pain related to the industrial injury. Although the opiates were only prescribed for one month, it is acknowledged that controlled substance medication is frequently only prescribed for one month at a time even though it is expected to be used for more

than one month. Guidelines support the use of Docuprene for the prophylactic treatment of constipation in patients using opioids. As such, the currently requested Docuprene 100mg #120 is medically necessary.