

Case Number:	CM13-0062860		
Date Assigned:	12/30/2013	Date of Injury:	04/19/2013
Decision Date:	04/18/2014	UR Denial Date:	11/11/2013
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	12/09/2013

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 Internal Medicine, 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 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:

The claimant is a 56 female who sustained an industrial injury on 04/19/2013. The mechanism of injury is toxic exposure to chemicals in paint at work. She has complaints of dry throat and cough. On exam her throat and chest exams are normal. The treating provider has requested Baclofen 10mg #45.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Baclofen 10mg #45: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS ACOEM Chapter 3 Initial Approaches to Treatment Page(s): 47. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation (ODG) Official Disability Guidelines- Pain Chapter.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Page(s): 64.

Decision rationale: There is no indication for therapy with Baclofen. The mechanism of action is blockade of the pre- and post-synaptic GABAB receptors. It is recommended orally for the treatment of spasticity and muscle spasm related to multiple sclerosis and spinal cord injuries. Baclofen has been noted to have benefits for treating lancinating, paroxysmal neuropathic pain. Per the documentation the claimant has symptoms of cough and dry throat. Baclofen is not

indicated for treatment of esophageal or bronchial spasms. Medical necessity for the requested treatment has not been established. The requested treatment is not medically necessary.