

Case Number:	CM13-0063345		
Date Assigned:	12/30/2013	Date of Injury:	01/03/2010
Decision Date:	05/08/2014	UR Denial Date:	11/13/2013
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 40 year old male who sustained an industrial work injury. On 01/03/2010, he injured both knees while lifting an overweight patient without help. He has diagnoses of bilateral knee pain, diabetes, depression, premature ejaculation, and erectile dysfunction. He has undergone knee arthroscopy x 2. Per the documentation he has gained 70 pounds since his injury. He has been diagnosed with diabetes and depression and has been maintained on medical therapy. On exam he walks with a restricted gait with both feet at an angle that causes him to waddle. He was been evaluated by Urology and has diagnoses of premature ejaculation and erectile dysfunction. The treating provider has requested Cialis 5mg #30 with 6 refills.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

RETROSPECTIVE REQUEST FOR PRESCRIPTION OF CIALIS 5MG/TAB TAKEN ORALLY EVERY DAY, #30, WITH 6 REFILLS: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation National Guidelines Clearinghouse (NGS), Erectile Dysfunction, (<http://www.guidelines.gov/content.aspx?id=10018>)

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Non-MTUS Citation: Medscape Internal Medicine 2013: Diabetes, Obesity, and Erectile Dysfunction

Decision rationale: The documentation indicates the claimant has diabetes related to his industrial injury. Erectile dysfunction is highly prevalent in men with both DM and obesity, and may act as a harbinger for cardiovascular disease (CVD), in this high-risk population. In addition to male hypogonadism and macrovascular disease, endothelial dysfunction is central to the connection between the metabolic syndrome and ED. Conversely, improved glycemic control and weight loss have been found to improve erectile function. The claimant has undergone a formal Urology evaluation. Cialis (Tadalafil) is a PDE5 inhibitor marketed in pill form for treating erectile dysfunction (ED). In October 2011 the FDA approved Cialis for treating the signs and symptoms of benign prostatic hypertrophy (BPH) as well as a combination of BPH and erectile dysfunction (ED) when the conditions coincide. The claimant has no evidence of BPH / urinary outflow obstruction. He is a candidate for PDE5 use on a prn basis. There is no indication for daily Cialis use. Medical necessity for the requested item was not established. The requested item is not medically necessary.

RETROSPECTIVE PRESCRIPTION OF CIALIS 5MG/TAB, TAKEN ORALLY DAILY, #30, WITH 2 REFILLS: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Non-MTUS Citation: National Guidelines Clearinghouse (NGS), Erectile Dysfunction, (<http://www.guidelines.gov/content.aspx?id=10018>)

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Medscape Internal Medicine 2013: Diabetes, Obesity, And Erectile Dysfunction .

Decision rationale: The documentation indicates the claimant has diabetes related to his industrial injury. Erectile dysfunction is highly prevalent in men with both DM and obesity, and may act as a harbinger for cardiovascular disease (CVD), in this high-risk population. In addition to male hypogonadism and macrovascular disease, endothelial dysfunction is central to the connection between the metabolic syndrome and ED. Conversely, improved glycemic control and weight loss have been found to improve erectile function. The claimant has undergone a formal Urology evaluation. Cialis (Tadalafil) is a PDE5 inhibitor marketed in pill form for treating erectile dysfunction (ED) In October 2011 the FDA approved Cialis for treating the signs and symptoms of benign prostatic hypertrophy (BPH) as well as a combination of BPH and erectile dysfunction (ED) when the conditions coincide. The claimant has no evidence of BPH / urinary outflow obstruction. He is a candidate for PDE5 use on a prn basis. There is no indication for daily Cialis use. Medical necessity for the requested item was not established. The requested item is not medically necessary.