

Case Number:	CM14-0003401		
Date Assigned:	01/31/2014	Date of Injury:	09/29/2004
Decision Date:	06/25/2014	UR Denial Date:	12/23/2013
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	01/08/2014

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 Family 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 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 patient is a 73 year old female who has submitted a claim for Diabetes Mellitus and Hypertension associated with an industrial injury date of September 29, 2004. Medical records from 2010 through 2013 were reviewed, which showed that the patient's blood pressure had been better controlled and that she had no chest pain or shortness of breath. On physical examination, blood pressure was 140/60. Heart rate was regular. Holosystolic murmur was noted. Treatment to date has included medications. A utilization review from December 23, 2013 modified the request for 1 comprehensive metabolic panel, HbA1C, and urine analysis to 1 comprehensive metabolic panel and HbA1C because there are no guideline recommendations for the use of urinalysis in the treatment of hypertension or diabetes mellitus.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

COMPREHENSIVE METABOLIC PANEL, HbA1C AND URINE ANALYSIS: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation "Comprehensive metabolic panel." MedlinePlus. (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/003468.htm>)

Decision rationale: According to MedlinePlus, a comprehensive metabolic panel is a group of blood tests. They provide an overall picture of the body's chemical balance and metabolism. In this case, comprehensive metabolic panels, HbA1C, and urinalysis were performed on May 14, 2013 and July 2, 2013, which revealed elevated blood sugar and unremarkable urinalysis results. However, the medical records failed to provide a rationale for repeat laboratory procedures. Therefore, the request is not medically necessary and appropriate.