

<b>Case Number:</b>	CM14-0101001		
<b>Date Assigned:</b>	07/30/2014	<b>Date of Injury:</b>	02/18/2012
<b>Decision Date:</b>	10/02/2014	<b>UR Denial Date:</b>	06/02/2014
<b>Priority:</b>	Standard	<b>Application Received:</b>	06/30/2014

### 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 Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and is licensed to practice in Nevada. 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 records presented for review indicate that this 27-year-old gentleman was reportedly injured on February 18, 2012. The mechanism of injury is noted as getting his left foot caught in a skid steer. The most recent progress note, dated April 9, 2014, indicates that there are ongoing complaints of low back pain radiating to the lower extremities. The physical examination demonstrated decreased lumbar spine range of motion. Diagnostic imaging studies of the lumbar spine revealed disc bulges at L3 - L4, L4 - L5, and L5 - S1. Lower extremity nerve conduction studies indicated there could be a possible left-sided L5 radiculopathy. Previous treatment includes physical therapy, chiropractic care, lumbar spine epidural steroid injections, lumbar spine facet injections, and the use of a tens unit. A request had been made for Sentra PM, Gabadone, Theramine, and Sentra AM and was not certified in the pre-authorization process on June 2, 2014.

### IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

**Sentra PM, #60: Upheld**

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

**MAXIMUS guideline:** The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation ODG Treatment, Integrated Treatment/Disability Duration Guidelines, Pain (Chronic), Medical Food, Updated July 26, 2014.

**Decision rationale:** Sentra PM is a proprietary blend of neurotransmitters and neurotransmitter precursors (choline bitartrate, 5-hydroxytryptophan, L-glutamate); activators of precursor utilization (acetyl-L-carnitine, L-glutamate, cocoa powder); stimulator of precursor uptake (ginkgo biloba); polyphenolic antioxidants (cocoa powder, grape seed extract, hawthorn berry); an adenosine antagonist (cocoa powder); and an inhibitor of the attenuation of neurotransmitter production associated with precursor administration (grape-seed extract). According to the official disability guidelines there is no indication for the use of Sentra PM in the treatment of low back pain.

**Gabadone, #60:** Upheld

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

**MAXIMUS guideline:** The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation ODG Treatment, Integrated Treatment/Disability Duration Guidelines, Pain (Chronic), Medical Food, Updated July 26, 2014

**Decision rationale:** GABAdone is a proprietary blend of neurotransmitters and neurotransmitter precursors (gammaaminobutyric acid [GABA], L-glutamate, 5-hydroxytryptophan, choline bitartrate); neurotransmitter (GABA) potentiator (valerian); activators of precursor utilization (acetyl-L-carnitine, L-glutamate, cocoa powder); an amino acid uptake stimulator (ginkgo biloba); activators of amino acid utilization (L-glutamate, cocoa powder); polyphenolic antioxidants (grape seed extract, cocoa powder); antiinflammatory and immunomodulatory peptides (whey protein hydrolysate); an adenosine antagonist (cocoa powder); and an inhibitor of the attenuation of neurotransmitter production associated with precursor administration (grape-seed extract). According to the official disability guidelines is no indication for the use of Gabadone in the treatment of low back pain.

**Theramine, #90:** Upheld

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

**MAXIMUS guideline:** The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation ODG Treatment, Integrated Treatment/Disability Duration Guidelines, Pain (Chronic), Medical Food, Updated July 26, 2014.

**Decision rationale:** Theramine is a blend of choline bitartrae, L-Arginine, L-Histadine, L-Glutamine, L-Serine, GABA, giffonia seed, whey protein, grape seed extract, ginkgo biloba, cinnamon and cocoa. According to the official disability guidelines there is no indication for the use of Theramine in the treatment of low back pain.

**Sentra AM, #60:** Upheld

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

**MAXIMUS guideline:** The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation ODG Treatment, Integrated Treatment/Disability Duration Guidelines, Pain (Chronic), Medical Food, Updated July 26, 2014.

**Decision rationale:** Sentra AM is a proprietary blend of neurotransmitters and neurotransmitter precursors (choline bitartrate, L-glutamate); activators of precursor utilization (acetyl-L-carnitine, L-glutamate, cocoa powder); polyphenolic antioxidants (cocoa powder, grape-seed extract, hawthorn berry); an adenosine antagonist (cocoa powder); and an inhibitor of the attenuation of neurotransmitter production associated with precursor administration (grape-seed extract). According to the official disability guidelines is no indication for the use of Sentra AM in the treatment of low back pain.