

Case Number:	CM14-0010051		
Date Assigned:	02/21/2014	Date of Injury:	11/09/2011
Decision Date:	06/25/2014	UR Denial Date:	01/14/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	01/24/2014

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 Practice 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 injured worker's date of injury is 11/09/2011. The patient's treating physician submitted a request for CPAP and related supplies on 01/08/2014. The physician is recommending treatment for Obstructive Sleep Apnea with a CPAP pressure of 6 cm H₂O.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

CONTINUOUS POSITIVE AIRWAY PRESSURE (C-PAP), NASAL WITH HEADGEAR AND SUPPLIES: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation http://www.aetna.com/cpb/medical/data/1_99/0004.html.

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Up to date: Diagnosis Of Osa By Kingman Strohl, Md; Accessed Online.

Decision rationale: The treating clinician is requesting treatment for obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) with CPAP. The diagnosis of OSA is defined by certain clinical parameters, such as a sleep study with an apnea to hypopnea index (AHI) of >14 and daytime signs of disturbed sleep. The medical records show that this patient had a sleep study on 12/09/2013 which showed an

AHI of 0.2 per hour and a sleep efficiency of 90.2%. There is no documentation that supports the daytime signs, such as daytime drowsiness. These are within normal limits. Based on the medical information presented in this case, the request for CPAP and the related supplies is not medically necessary.