

<b>Case Number:</b>	CM14-0114884		
<b>Date Assigned:</b>	08/01/2014	<b>Date of Injury:</b>	05/05/2009
<b>Decision Date:</b>	09/10/2014	<b>UR Denial Date:</b>	07/17/2014
<b>Priority:</b>	Standard	<b>Application Received:</b>	07/22/2014

### 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 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:

According to the records made available for review, this is a 49-year-old female with a 5/5/09 date of injury. At the time (7/17/14) of request for authorization for Terocin pain patch box 10 patches #1 box, there is documentation of subjective (low back pain associated with numbness and tingling extending to both lower extremities; pain in the right wrist/hand, left wrist/hand, and bilateral knees) and objective (positive Tinel's and Phalen's, 4/5 muscle strength interossei, thenar, ECR, biceps, and deltoid; tenderness to palpation about the medial aspect of the knee, and positive McMurray) findings, current diagnoses (herniated nucleus pulposus of lumbar spine, lumbar radiculopathy, and lumbar facet arthropathy; right TFCC tear, bilateral knee chondromalacia, carpal tunnel syndrome, and common extensor tendon origin tendinosis/partial tear), and treatment to date (physical therapy, chiropractic, injection, bracing, TENS, and medications (including Terocin patches, Tramadol and Omeprazole)). 7/18/14 medical report identifies that for the neuropathic pain the patient has been provided with Terocin patches given a history of gastrointestinal bleeding and intolerance to Norco and Flexeril.

### IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

**Terocin pain patch box 10 patches #1 box:** Upheld

**Claims Administrator guideline:** Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Topical Analgesics.

**MAXIMUS guideline:** Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Topical Analgesics Page(s): 111-113.

**Decision rationale:** Terocin patch contains ingredients that include Lidocaine and Menthol. California Medical treatment Utilization Schedule (MTUS) Chronic Pain Medical Treatment Guidelines identifies that many agents are compounded as monotherapy or in combination for pain control; that Ketoprofen, Lidocaine (in creams, lotion or gels), Capsaicin in a 0.0375% formulation, Baclofen and other muscle relaxants, and Gabapentin and other antiepilepsy drugs are not recommended for topical applications; and that any compounded product that contains at least one drug (or drug class) that is not recommended, is not recommended. Within the medical information available for review, there is documentation of diagnoses of herniated nucleus pulposus of lumbar spine, lumbar radiculopathy, and lumbar facet arthropathy; right triangular fibrocartilage complex tear, bilateral knee chondromalacia, carpal tunnel syndrome, and common extensor tendon origin tendinosis/partial tear. However, Terocin contains at least one drug (Lidocaine) that is not recommended. Therefore, based on guidelines and a review of the evidence, the request for Terocin pain patch box 10 patches #1 box is not medically necessary.