

Case Number:	CM14-0120564		
Date Assigned:	08/06/2014	Date of Injury:	12/17/2008
Decision Date:	09/17/2014	UR Denial Date:	07/09/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	07/30/2014

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 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 injured worker is a 51 yr. old female claimant sustained a work injury on 6/26/12 involving the shoulders and neck. She was diagnosed with bilateral shoulder strain and headaches. She's had pain and has been managing it with Ibuprofen, Menthoderm, and Xanax as needed and Fioricet for several months. A progress note on 6/30/14 indicated the claimant had decreased range of motion of the shoulders. Urine toxicology was ordered. No clinical rationale was provided. Results were positive for barbiturates and negative for Benzodiazepine.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Urine Toxicology: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Urine Toxicology Page(s): 83-91.

Decision rationale: According to the California MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines, urine toxicology screen is used to assess presence of illicit drugs or to monitor adherence to prescription medication program. There's no documentation from the provider to suggest that there was illicit drug use or noncompliance. There were no prior urine drug screen results that

indicated noncompliance, substance abuse or other inappropriate activity. The results noted barbiturates consistent with Fioricet. Xanax (Benzodiazepine) is short acting, and taken as needed it may not show on a drug screen. Based on the above references and clinical history a urine toxicology screen, and therefore is not medically necessary.