

<b>Case Number:</b>	CM14-0127141		
<b>Date Assigned:</b>	09/23/2014	<b>Date of Injury:</b>	06/25/2012
<b>Decision Date:</b>	11/05/2014	<b>UR Denial Date:</b>	08/04/2014
<b>Priority:</b>	Standard	<b>Application Received:</b>	08/11/2014

### 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 Occupational 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:

This patient is a 58 y/o male who developed increased low back pain with radiculitis and neck pain subsequent to an injury dated 6/25/12. He is s/p remote spinal surgery. His current treatment consists of oral analgesics in the form of Norco prn. Average use of Norco appears to be 2-4 per day. He is also prescribed Norflex on a chronic basis.

### IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

**Orphenadrine Citrate 100 Mg:** Upheld

**Claims Administrator guideline:** Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Muscle Relaxants Page(s): 63.

**MAXIMUS guideline:** Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Muscle Relaxants Page(s): 63, 65.

**Decision rationale:** MTUS Guidelines do not recommend the long term daily use of nearly all muscle relaxants (Norflex included). There are no unusual circumstances to justify an exception to Guidelines. The Orphencitrate (Norflex) 100mg is not medically necessary.