

Case Number:	CM14-0132562		
Date Assigned:	08/25/2014	Date of Injury:	08/09/2011
Decision Date:	10/16/2014	UR Denial Date:	08/06/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	08/12/2014

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 32-year-old gentleman was reportedly injured on August 9, 2011. The most recent progress note, dated July 22, 2014, indicates that there are ongoing complaints of low back pain. The physical examination demonstrated muscle spasms of the lumbar spine paraspinal muscles. There was a negative bilateral straight leg raise test and a normal lower extremity neurological examination. Diagnostic imaging studies of the lumbar spine revealed a paracentral disc extrusion at L1 - L2 is extending into the left L2 lateral recess. There was also disk bulges and protrusions noted at L3 - L4, L4 - L5, and L5 - S1. Previous treatment includes oral medications. A request had been made for omeprazole and was not certified in the pre-authorization process on August 7, 2014.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Omeprazole: Upheld

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

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Page(s): 68-69 of 127..

Decision rationale: Prilosec (Omeprazole) is a proton pump inhibitor useful for the treatment of gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) and is considered a gastric protectant for individuals utilizing non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications. There is no indication in the record provided of a G.I. disorder. Additionally, the injured employee does not have a significant risk factor for potential G.I. complications as outlined by the MTUS. Therefore, this request for omeprazole is not medically necessary.