

<b>Case Number:</b>	CM14-0155607		
<b>Date Assigned:</b>	09/25/2014	<b>Date of Injury:</b>	12/10/2006
<b>Decision Date:</b>	10/27/2014	<b>UR Denial Date:</b>	08/20/2014
<b>Priority:</b>	Standard	<b>Application Received:</b>	09/23/2014

### 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 Internal Medicine and is licensed to practice in New York. 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 patient is a 51 year old male with a date of injury of 12/10/2006. He has a history of cervical radiculopathy, hypertension, erectile dysfunction, chest pain and shortness of breath. On 08/05/2014 it was noted that the patient was taking Atenolol, Diovan, HCTZ, Cardura, Clonidine, Cialis, Norvasc and Cardura. Blood pressure was 126/84. He has had erectile dysfunction since starting the multi-drug treatment for hypertension and had a good response to Cialis.

### IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

**Viagra 50mg, Lifelong:** Upheld

**Claims Administrator guideline:** The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Mdconsult.com, Sildenafil-Viagra

**MAXIMUS guideline:** The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Other Medical Treatment Guideline or Medical Evidence: Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine, 18th Edition. 2011.

**Decision rationale:** The MTUS and the ODG do not cover the issue of Viagra for erectile dysfunction. The patient's erectile dysfunction has already been treated with Cialis (same drug class as Viagra). There is no documentation that Viagra is superior to Cialis, that the patient

needs additional treatment for erectile dysfunction or that he requires Viagra in addition to Cialis for lifelong treatment. The request is determined not medically necessary.