

Case Number:	CM14-0169351		
Date Assigned:	10/17/2014	Date of Injury:	10/11/2005
Decision Date:	12/12/2014	UR Denial Date:	10/09/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	10/14/2014

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:

This injured worker's date of injury is 10/11/2005. Documentation for the original injury was not provided. This patient receives treatment for chronic low back pain. A lumbar MRI on 03/15/2013 shows a small lumbar disc protrusion at L5-S1. Physical therapy was recommended for the patient. Medications used have included: Opana, Norco, Flexeril, Gabapentin, Zolpidem, and Ibuprofen.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Omeprazole 20mg #60: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not cite any medical evidence for its decision.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines NSAIDs, GI symptoms & cardiovascular risk Page(s): 68-70.

Decision rationale: Omeprazole is a proton pump inhibitor (PPI). A PPI may be medically indicated for patients who are risk for GI complications (eg. GI bleeding) when they take an NSAID orally. There is no such documentation for this patient. The request for Omeprazole is not medically indicated.