

Case Number:	CM14-0029872		
Date Assigned:	04/21/2014	Date of Injury:	11/28/2013
Decision Date:	05/01/2014	UR Denial Date:	02/10/2014
Priority:	Expedited	Application Received:	03/10/2014

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 Neurology, has a subspecialty in Neuromuscular 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 patient is a 23-year-old woman who sustained a work-related injury on November 28, 2013. Subsequently she developed post-traumatic head injury. According to the notes of January 15, 2014, the patient was complaining of headache, dizziness, lightheadedness, hearing problems, mood changes, and sleep dysfunction. The patient reported episodic blackout spells. Her neurologic examination was normal and the CT scan of the head was normal. Her provider requested authorization for an EEG.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

ELECTROENCEPHALOGRAPHY (EEG): Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Treatment Index, 11th Edition, 2013, Head

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Head

Decision rationale: The ODG states that an EEG is not generally indicated in the immediate period of emergency response, evaluation, and treatment. Following initial assessment and stabilization, the individual's course should be monitored. If during this period, there is failure to improve, or the medical condition deteriorates, an EEG may be indicated to assist in the

diagnostic evaluation. There is no documentation that the patient failed to improve. The initial evaluation was not documented. Therefore, the requested EEG is not medically necessary and appropriate.