

Case Number:	CM14-0034196		
Date Assigned:	06/20/2014	Date of Injury:	05/18/2012
Decision Date:	07/18/2014	UR Denial Date:	03/08/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	03/18/2014

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 Anesthesiology, has a subspecialty in Pain Management 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:

According to the records made available for review, this is a 38-year-old male with a 5/18/12 date of injury. At the time (1/29/14) of request for authorization for Omeprazole 20mg #60, there is documentation of subjective (low back pain, left shoulder pain, and left knee pain) and objective (tenderness to palpation over the lumbar paraspinal musculature, left shoulder musculature, and left knee; restricted left knee range of motion and positive McMurray's test) findings, current diagnoses (lumbar spine sprain/strain with radiculitis, lumbar disc protrusions, left shoulder internal derangement, and left knee internal derangement), and treatment to date (ongoing therapy with NSAIDs and Omeprazole since at least 8/13/13). There is no documentation of risk for gastrointestinal events (age > 65 years; history of peptic ulcer, GI bleeding or perforation; concurrent use of ASA, corticosteroids, and/or an anticoagulant; and/or high dose multiple NSAID) and gastric ulcers induced by NSAIDs.

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: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines: Pain (Chronic).

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines NSAIDs, GI symptoms & cardiovascular risk Page(s): 68-69. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG) Pain (Chronic), Proton pump inhibitors (PPIs).

Decision rationale: MTUS Chronic Pain Medical Treatment Guidelines identifies that risk for gastrointestinal event includes age > 65 years; history of peptic ulcer, GI bleeding or perforation; concurrent use of ASA, corticosteroids, and/or an anticoagulant; and/or high dose multiple NSAID. MTUS-Definitions identifies that any treatment intervention should not be continued in the absence of functional benefit or improvement as a reduction in work restrictions; an increase in activity tolerance; and/or a reduction in the use of medications or medical services. ODG identifies documentation of risk for gastrointestinal events and preventing gastric ulcers induced by NSAIDs, as criteria necessary to support the medical necessity of Omeprazole. Within the medical information available for review, there is documentation of diagnoses of lumbar spine sprain/strain with radiculitis, lumbar disc protrusions, left shoulder internal derangement, and left knee internal derangement. In addition, there is documentation of chronic NSAID therapy. However, there is no documentation of risk for gastrointestinal events (age > 65 years; history of peptic ulcer, GI bleeding or perforation; concurrent use of ASA, corticosteroids, and/or an anticoagulant; and/or high dose multiple NSAID) and gastric ulcers induced by NSAIDs. Therefore, based on guidelines and a review of the evidence, the request for Omeprazole 20mg #60 is not medically necessary.