

Case Number:	CM14-0039874		
Date Assigned:	06/27/2014	Date of Injury:	07/29/2011
Decision Date:	08/08/2014	UR Denial Date:	03/27/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	04/04/2014

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 49-year-old male with a 7/29/11 date of injury, and arthroscopic partial lateral meniscectomy and chondroplasty of the lateral femoral condyle with synovectomy on 4/27/13. The patient was noted to have left knee pain and tenderness over the joint line, medial and lateral knee. The current diagnosis was a sprain/strain of knee/leg. The patient's treatment to date included oral medications, topical compounded medication, and cortisone injection.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Topical Compound of - Cyclobenzaprine; Gabapentin; Flurbiprofen; Tramadol; (duration & frequency unknown)date of service 02/12/2014): Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Topical Medications.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines TOPICAL ANALGESICS Page(s): 111-113.

Decision rationale: The MTUS Chronic Pain Medical Treatment Guidelines identifies that many agents are compounded as monotherapy or in combination for pain control; that any compounded medications containing Ketoprofen, Lidocaine (in creams, lotion or gels), capsaicin

in a 0.0375% formulation, Baclofen and other muscle relaxants, and Gabapentin and other antiepilepsy drugs are not recommended for topical applications; and that any compounded product that contains at least one drug (or drug class) that is not recommended, is not recommended. Within the medical information available for review, there is documentation of diagnoses of sprain/strain of knee/leg. However, topical compound of Cyclobenzaprine, Gabapentin, Flurbiprofen, and Tramadol contains at least one drug (or drug class) (Gabapentin and muscle relaxant) that is not recommended. Therefore, based on guidelines and a review of the evidence, the request for topical compound of Cyclobenzaprine; Gabapentin; Flurbiprofen; Tramadol; is not medically necessary.