

Case Number:	CM14-0063806		
Date Assigned:	07/11/2014	Date of Injury:	05/08/2013
Decision Date:	08/08/2014	UR Denial Date:	04/23/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	05/06/2014

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 licensed in Podiatric surgery 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:

According to the enclosed information this patient was originally injured at work on 5/28/2013. It is noted that he injured his left foot. During a medical visit on 12/30/2013 it is noted that the patient has left heel pain rated at 1/10. The patient notes 80% improvement with custom orthotics in his work boots and running shoes. Musculoskeletal exam reveals minimal pressure upon palpation to the plantar medial aspect of the left heel. Functional orthotics appear to fit well. Diagnoses that day include plantar fasciitis, calcaneal spur, bursitis, contusion of foot, pain left foot. The treatment plan consisted of recommendation to continue wearing custom foot orthotics, and dispensing of prescriptions for Terocin cream and Medrox patches to be used as directed.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Terocin cream (1 box, 2 bottles) dispensed on: 12/30/13: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Lidocaine, topical; Capsaicin topical; Salicylate topical; Menthol.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Topical analgesics Page(s): 111-112.

Decision rationale: Terocin cream contains: Methyl Salicylate 25%, Capsaicin 0.025%, Menthol 10%, Lidocaine 2.50%. After careful review of the enclosed information and the

chronic pain and MTUS guidelines pertinent for this case, it is my opinion that the decision for retrospective prescription for Terocin cream, 1 box 2 bottles is not medically reasonable or necessary for this patient. The chronic pain guidelines are very specific in that they state that any compounded product that contains at least one drug or drug class that is not recommended is not recommended. Lidocaine has an indication for neuropathic pain, which according to the progress notes this patient does not suffer with. Furthermore, menthol is not mentioned as a topical medication that is recommended. Therefore, the request for Terocin cream (1 box, 2 bottles) dispensed on: 12/30/13 is not medically necessary and appropriate.

Medrox patches (6 boxes containing 30 patches) dispensed on: 12/30/13: Upheld

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

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Topical analgesics Page(s): 112-113.

Decision rationale: Medrox Patch is a topical medication contains; menthol, capsaicin and methyl salicylate. After careful review of the enclosed information and the chronic pain and MTUS guidelines pertinent for this case, it is my opinion that the Retrospective prescription for Medrox patches #30 (6 boxes) DOS: 12/30/13 is not medically reasonable or necessary for this patient. The chronic pain guidelines are very specific in that they state that any compounded product that contains at least one drug or drug class that is not recommended is not recommended. Menthol is not mentioned as a topical medication that is recommended. Therefore, the request for Medrox patches (6 boxes containing 30 patches) dispensed on: 12/30/13 is not medically necessary and appropriate.