

Case Number:	CM14-0190576		
Date Assigned:	11/24/2014	Date of Injury:	01/17/2008
Decision Date:	01/09/2015	UR Denial Date:	10/17/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	11/14/2014

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 Emergency Medicine 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:

The patient is a 38-year-old male who was injured on January 17, 2006. The patient continued to experience pain in his back, abdominal bloating, and heartburn. Physical examination was notable for soft, non-tender, non-distended abdomen. Diagnoses included status post failed lumbar spine surgery, right-sided L5/S1 radiculopathy, and gastroesophageal reflux disease. Treatment included medications, epidural steroid injections, pool therapy, and surgery. Request for authorization for Dexilant was submitted for consideration.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Dexilant capsule 60 mg DR: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines NSAIDs, GI symptoms and Cardiovascular risk Page(s): 65.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Pain Interventions and Guidelines Page(s): 68.

Decision rationale: Dexilant is Dexlansoprazole, a proton pump inhibitor (PPI). PPI's are used in the treatment of peptic ulcer disease and may be prescribed in patients who are using non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and are at high risk for gastrointestinal events. Risk factors for high-risk events are age greater than 65, history of peptic ulcer, GI bleeding or perforation,

concurrent use of ASA, corticosteroids, and/or an anticoagulant, or high dose/multiple NSAID (e.g., NSAID + low-dose ASA). The patient in this case was not using NSAID medication and did not have any of the risk factors for a gastrointestinal event. The request is not medically necessary.