

Case Number:	CM14-0085197		
Date Assigned:	07/23/2014	Date of Injury:	12/28/1994
Decision Date:	01/05/2015	UR Denial Date:	05/07/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	06/06/2014

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 Board Certified in Neurology, has a subspecialty in Pain Medicine and is licensed to practice in Florida. 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:

In a note dated 11/15/13 it indicates that the insured has not had any significant headaches for three months. Maxalt is used once in a while. The frequency, severity, and duration of the headaches have "dramatically improved." Xeomin 200 units are being used. An 8/27/13 note indicates headaches are being treated with botulinum toxin. The insured was administered myobloc. Prior to using this treatment, the insured was reported to frequent the ER with a significant loss of ADLs and quality of life. A 2/20/14 note indicates that the insured is doing well for 10 to 12 weeks. The insured was having significant headaches for 3 weeks. The insured was taking prednisone and triptans for the headaches.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Toxin injection x 1 (Xeomin) into the soft tissue (face-temples): Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Botulinum toxin (Botox; myobloc).

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG) Head, Botox

Decision rationale: Xeomin is not FDA approved for treatment of headaches. Botox is supported for treatment of chronic migraine headaches but not chronic tension headaches. The

ODG guidelines support Botox for chronic migraine treatment. The medical records indicate "great" improvement of headaches with the Xeomin treatment but does not document specific symptoms and or signs of the headache or document the specific frequency of the headaches in support of a diagnosis of chronic migraine type headaches. In the absence of demonstrated chronic migraine headaches meeting criteria established by the American Headache Society, the treatment of the insured with botulinum is not supported. Therefore the request is not medically necessary.

Myobloc 5000 units x 1: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Botulinum toxin (Botox; Myobloc).

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG) Head, Botox

Decision rationale: Myobloc is not FDA approved for treatment of headaches. Botox is supported for treatment of chronic migraine headaches but not chronic tension headaches. The ODG guidelines support Botox for chronic migraine treatment. The medical records indicate "great" improvement of headaches with the Xeomin treatment but does not document specific symptoms and or signs of the headache or document the specific frequency of the headaches in support of a diagnosis of chronic migraine type headaches. In the absence of demonstrated chronic migraine headaches meeting criteria established by the American Headache Society, the treatment of the insured with botulinum is not supported. The request is not medically necessary.