

Case Number:	CM15-0002800		
Date Assigned:	01/13/2015	Date of Injury:	11/09/2010
Decision Date:	03/17/2015	UR Denial Date:	12/05/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	01/06/2015

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. 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/Service. He/she is familiar with governing laws and regulations, including the strength of evidence hierarchy that applies to Independent Medical Review determinations.

The Expert Reviewer has the following credentials:
State(s) of Licensure: California
Certification(s)/Specialty: Family Practice

CLINICAL CASE SUMMARY

The expert reviewer developed the following clinical case summary based on a review of the case file, including all medical records:

Patient had a date of injury on 11/9/2010. The patient has been under treatment for chronic knee pain and low back pain. During the 11/25/14 visit the patient described aching low back and both legs pain. Current medications were Norco and Zolpidem.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Urine Drug Screen: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines Opioids. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG), Pain (Chronic)

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines drug screen Page(s): 93.

Decision rationale: Based on guidelines drug screens are recommended as an option, using a urine drug screen to assess for the use or the presence of illegal drugs, adherence to a prescription drug regimen or to diagnose misuse, addiction. According to the medical records there is no documentation of any of the above. Therefore, the request is not medically necessary.

