

Case Number:	CM15-0005756		
Date Assigned:	01/20/2015	Date of Injury:	10/18/2007
Decision Date:	03/24/2015	UR Denial Date:	12/09/2014
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	01/12/2015

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: Pennsylvania

Certification(s)/Specialty: Internal Medicine, Hospice & Palliative Medicine

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 injured worker is a 45 year old female with a date of injury as 10/18/2007. The current diagnoses include abdominal pain unspecified site. Previous treatments include gastric bypass. Report dated 11/12/2014 noted that the injured worker presented with complaints that included belching, bloating, vomiting since surgery, and feeling of tiredness. The injured worker is taking Prilosec. The documentation submitted did not include a physical examination. The utilization review performed on 12/09/2014 non-certified a prescription for CCK Hida scan based on no indication for the requested scan.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

CCK Hida scan: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Journal of Nuclear Medicine Technology, Society of Nuclear Medicine Practice Guidelines

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Zakko SF, et al. Functional gallbladder disorder in adults. Topic 16725, version 4.0. UpToDate, accessed 03/22/2015.

Decision rationale: A CCK HIDA scan, or CCK-stimulated cholescintigraphy, is a type of nuclear imaging study that uses a medication to estimate how well the gallbladder squeezes out its contents when it contracts. The MTUS Guidelines are silent on this issue. The literature supports the use of this study for people with typical symptoms of a bile problem. It is not recommended for those with atypical symptoms, such as bloating, a full feeling, or stomach discomfort because these symptoms are unlikely to improve after surgery even if the study shows decreased contents are released. The submitted documentation indicated the worker was experiencing belching, bloating, vomiting, and fatigue after having weight-reduction surgery. There was no discussion describing special circumstances that sufficiently supported this request. In the absence of such evidence, the current request for a CCK HIDA scan is not medically necessary.