

Case Number:	CM15-0104230		
Date Assigned:	06/08/2015	Date of Injury:	09/30/2011
Decision Date:	07/08/2015	UR Denial Date:	05/12/2015
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	06/01/2015

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, Indiana, New York
Certification(s)/Specialty: Internal 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 57 year old male, who sustained an industrial injury on 9/30/11. The injured worker was diagnosed as having hypertension and erectile dysfunction. Treatment to date has included Lisinopril and Cialis. A recent echocardiogram was complete which revealed evidence of hypertensive heart disease. Currently, the injured worker complains of erectile dysfunction and hypertension. Physical exam noted blood pressure in normal range. A request for authorization was submitted for Cialis 20mg.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Cialis 20mg: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Mosby Drug Consult.

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/druginfo/meds/a604008.html>.

Decision rationale: Pursuant to Medline plus, Cialis 20 mg is not medically necessary. Tadalafil (Cialis) is used to treat erectile dysfunction (ED, impotence; inability to get or keep an erection), and the symptoms of benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH; an enlarged prostate) which include difficulty urinating (hesitation, dribbling, weak stream, and incomplete bladder emptying), painful urination, and urinary frequency and urgency in adult men. Tadalafil (Adcirca) is used to improve the ability to exercise in people with pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH; high blood pressure in the vessels carrying blood to the lungs, causing shortness of breath, dizziness, and tiredness). Tadalafil is in a class of medications called phosphodiesterase (PDE) inhibitors. It works to treat erectile dysfunction by increasing blood flow to the penis during sexual stimulation. This increased blood flow can cause an erection. Tadalafil treats PAH by relaxing the blood vessels in the lungs to allow blood to flow more easily. In this case, the injured worker's working diagnoses are hypertension and erectile dysfunction. This medical record contains 20 pages. A progress note dated November 17, 2014 from an internal medicine/cardiologist states the injured worker's hypertension is not industrially related. The request for authorization is dated May 2, 2015. The most recent progress note in the medical record from the requesting provider is dated January 22, 2015. There is no contemporaneous progress note in the medical record on or about the date of request for authorization. The last prescription for Cialis, dated November 2015, was Cialis 10 mg #30 with five refills. There was no subsequent documentation in the medical record indicating objective functional improvement on or about the date of request for authorization May 2, 2015. Consequently, absent contemporaneous clinical documentation with objective functional improvement over the prior four months, Cialis 20 mg is not medically necessary.