

<b>Case Number:</b>	CM15-0106975		
<b>Date Assigned:</b>	06/11/2015	<b>Date of Injury:</b>	05/24/2012
<b>Decision Date:</b>	07/13/2015	<b>UR Denial Date:</b>	05/27/2015
<b>Priority:</b>	Standard	<b>Application Received:</b>	06/03/2015

### 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, Texas

Certification(s)/Specialty: Psychiatry, Geriatric Psychiatry, Addiction Psychiatry

### 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 55-year-old male, who sustained an industrial injury on 5/24/12 when he rolled his dump truck on the freeway. He received surgery and injections, including craniotomy for a subdural hematoma. He diagnosed with depressive disorder NOS. Treatments to date have included CBT and medication. On 5/14/15, PR2 noted that he currently complained of hopeless, depression, and inability to enjoy things. He was irritable and short tempered. Energy was fair, concentration poor. He suffered from shoulder and knee pain. Current medications are Brintellix 40mg, Latuda (since at least 02/26/14) for mood stabilization and depression, and Belsomra (since at least 4/14/15) for insomnia. Prior to that, he was on zolpidem. Belsomra had been increased in a previous office visit to 15mg and he reported being able to sleep 4-5 hours per night restfully.

### IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

**Latuda 40mg qty: 30:** Upheld

**Claims Administrator guideline:** The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines (ODG), Online, Pain, and Anxiety medications in chronic pain.

**MAXIMUS guideline:** The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation the Expert Reviewer based his/her decision on the Non- MTUS, CA-MTUS is silent regarding Latuda Official Disability Guidelines Pain Chapter Atypical antipsychotics not recommended as a first-line treatment. There is insufficient evidence to recommend atypical antipsychotics (eg, quetiapine, risperidone) for conditions covered in ODG.

**Decision rationale:** The patient is on Latuda as augmentation to his antidepressant, Brintellix, for depressive disorder NOS. Latuda, an atypical antipsychotic, is FDA approved for schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. The patient has not been diagnosed with either disorder. Atypical antipsychotics are often used off label as augmenting agents to antidepressants, but in this case, there is no rationale provided for its use and no evidence of its efficacy. This request is therefore not certified.

**Belsomra 15mg qty: 30:** Upheld

**Claims Administrator guideline:** The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation ODG, Online, Pain, Insomnia treatment.

**MAXIMUS guideline:** The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation The Expert Reviewer based his/her decision on the Non- MTUS, CA-MTUS is silent regarding Belsomra Official Disability Guidelines Mental Illness & Stress/Pain Insomnia treatment Recommend that treatment be based on the etiology, with the medications recommended below. See Insomnia.

**Decision rationale:** Belsomra is an orexin receptor antagonist, which was released for insomnia treatment in 2014. Per the FDA, in studies it was not compared to other drugs approved to treat insomnia, so it is not known if there are differences in safety or effectiveness between Belsomra and other insomnia medications. There was no rationale provided for use of this agent vs. other medications. This request is therefore non-certified.

