

Case Number:	CM15-0166227		
Date Assigned:	08/27/2015	Date of Injury:	08/20/2001
Decision Date:	09/30/2015	UR Denial Date:	08/05/2015
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	08/17/2015

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, North Carolina
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:

This is a 65-year-old male with an August 20, 2001 date of injury. A progress note dated June 9, 2015 documents subjective complaints (erectile dysfunction that is well treated with Levitra), objective findings (essentially unchanged), and current diagnoses (erectile dysfunction; orthopedic injuries; status post back surgery; anxiety). Treatments to date have included medications and back surgery. The treating physician documented a plan of care that included Levitra 20mg #10.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Levitra 20mg #10: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation <http://www.pdr.net/drug-summary/levitra?druglabelid=2275>, Levitra (Vardenafil Hydrochloride).

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation National Guideline Clearinghouse/Levitra, Up-to-date/evaluation and treatment of erectile dysfunction.

Decision rationale: MTUS/ODG is silent regarding the use of Levitra, a 5-phosphodiesterase inhibitor, used in the treatment of erectile dysfunction (ED). In this case, it is not stated that the ED is related to the patient's injury. There is no documentation of genitourinary symptoms, physical exam findings, or testosterone levels to support the diagnosis of ED. There is also no history of other medical problems that may be contributing to ED, such as vascular insufficiency or diabetes. There is no documentation of improvement from the previous use of Levitra. Thus, no clear rationale is provided for the medical necessity of Levitra.