

Case Number:	CM15-0020525		
Date Assigned:	02/10/2015	Date of Injury:	04/19/1991
Decision Date:	03/25/2015	UR Denial Date:	01/26/2015
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	02/03/2015

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: 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:

The injured worker is a 76 year old male who sustained an industrial injury on 04/19/1991. Current diagnosis includes failed total knee arthroplasty left due to aseptic loosening of the femoral component. Previous treatments included medication management, and left total knee arthroplasty. Report dated 01/06/2015 noted that the injured worker presented with complaints that included follow-up for left knee pain. Physical examination was positive for abnormal findings. Utilization review performed on 01/26/2015 non-certified a prescription for pre-operative Gladase ointment, based on the guidelines do not support use. The reviewer referenced the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in making this decision.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Preoperative Gladase ointment: Upheld

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

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation physician desk reference

Decision rationale: The California MTUS, ACOEM and the ODG do not specifically address the requested medication. Per the Physician Desk Reference, the requested medication is a papain-urea topical cream used to break down dead skin or tissues in wounds such as bed sores, ulcers, burns, surgical wounds, cysts and carbuncles. This would not be indicated for pre-operative use before revision of total knee arthroplasty. Therefore the request is not medically necessary.