

Case Number:	CM15-0035198		
Date Assigned:	03/03/2015	Date of Injury:	06/18/2000
Decision Date:	04/20/2015	UR Denial Date:	02/18/2015
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	02/24/2015

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: Arizona, Texas
 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 46 year old male, who sustained an industrial injury on 6/08/2000. The diagnoses have included diabetes mellitus without mention of complication, type II or unspecified type, not stated as uncontrolled, and hypertension. Treatment to date has included conservative measures. Currently, the injured worker complains of back pain with radicular symptoms to the lower extremities. Blood glucose readings were not noted. Blood glucose readings, body mass index, or diet recommendations were not noted. Medications included Lantus and Novolog insulin. On 2/18/2015, Utilization Review conditionally non-certified a prescription for Lantus, 2 boxes, and conditionally non-certified a prescription for Novolog, 2 boxes, noting the lack of compliance with Official Disability Guidelines.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Recommend prospective request for 1 prescription of Lantus, 2 boxes between 2/4/15 and 4/6/15: 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), diabetes (Type 1, 2, and Gestational).

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation UptoDate.com. Drug information.

Decision rationale: The MTUS is silent regarding the use of insulin treatment. According to Uptodate.com insulin (Lantus and novolog) is used in the treatment of type 1 diabetes mellitus (insulin dependent, IDDM) and type 2 diabetes mellitus (noninsulin dependent, NIDDM) to improve glycemic control. When using insulin to treat a patient with diabetes, proper monitoring of plasma glucose, electrolytes and HbgA1C should occur to gauge efficacy of the drug and monitor for adverse effects. In this case, the documentation supplied does not show any monitoring of these parameters. There is no documentation to assess if the patient has symptomatic hypoglycemia or hyperglycemia. The use of insulin for the treatment of Diabetes does not meet criteria.

Recommend prospective request for 1 prescription of Novolog, 2 boxes between 2/4/15 and 4/6/15: 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), diabetes (Type 1, 2, and Gestational).

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation UptoDate.com. Drug information.

Decision rationale: The MTUS is silent regarding the use of insulin treatment. According to Uptodate.com insulin (Lantus and novolog) is used in the treatment of type 1 diabetes mellitus (insulin dependent, IDDM) and type 2 diabetes mellitus (noninsulin dependent, NIDDM) to improve glycemic control. When using insulin to treat a patient with diabetes, proper monitoring of plasma glucose, electrolytes and HbgA1C should occur to gauge efficacy of the drug and monitor for adverse effects. In this case, the documentation supplied does not show any monitoring of these parameters. There is no documentation to assess if the patient has symptomatic hypoglycemia or hyperglycemia. The use of insulin for the treatment of Diabetes does not meet criteria.