

Case Number:	CM15-0038340		
Date Assigned:	03/09/2015	Date of Injury:	02/27/2013
Decision Date:	04/13/2015	UR Denial Date:	02/17/2015
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	03/02/2015

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: Florida

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 utilization review was performed on 2/17/15. The injured worker is a 28 year old male, who sustained an industrial injury on 2/27/13. The injured worker has complaints of low back pain with some numbness and tingling in the bilateral lower extremities down to the knees. The diagnoses have included lumbosacral discogenic disease. Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) of the lumbar spine 9/2014 revealed two herniated discs.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Outpatient DNA test: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: The Claims Administrator did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Official Disability Guidelines Treatment Workers' Compensation, 2015 web-base.

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation ODG 2015 web based edition. Genetic testing.

Decision rationale: An outpatient DNA test was requested. Much of the chart is hand written and not the most legible, but it would appear that this test is being requested to look at opioid

abuse potential. MTUS guidelines do not address this request, and therefore the ODG was referenced. The ODG states that such genetic testing for potential opioid abuse is not recommended, and that current research is experimental. This request is definitely not medically necessary.