

Case Number:	CM15-0041159		
Date Assigned:	03/11/2015	Date of Injury:	12/21/2013
Decision Date:	04/14/2015	UR Denial Date:	02/23/2015
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	03/04/2015

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, California
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 53 year old male, who sustained an industrial injury on December 21, 2013. He has reported neck pain with radiation to the left arm with numbness and tingling. Diagnoses have included cervical spine stenosis and disc herniation. Treatment to date has included medications and cervical spine fusion. A progress note dated January 23, 2015 indicates the injured worker was doing well following cervical spine fusion on January 9, 2015. The treating physician documented a plan of care that included bone building vitamins to help the fusion heal.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Bone up vitamin: 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), Mental Health.

MAXIMUS guideline: The Expert Reviewer did not base their decision on the MTUS. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation ODG- pain chapter- calcium, vit D - pg 28, 141.

Decision rationale: Bone up contains Calcium, Vitamin D, Vitamin K and Ossein. It is marketed for skeletal support. According to the guidelines, Vitamin D is recommended in those with pain and where supplementation is needed. In this case, there is no indication of vitamin deficiency or need for supplementation. The Ossein ingredient does not have adequate evidence to support its use. As a result, the Bone-up is not medically necessary.