

Case Number:	CM15-0059762		
Date Assigned:	04/06/2015	Date of Injury:	01/22/2009
Decision Date:	05/06/2015	UR Denial Date:	03/11/2015
Priority:	Standard	Application Received:	03/30/2015

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: Texas, Illinois

Certification(s)/Specialty: Preventive Medicine, Occupational 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 61 year old male, who sustained an industrial injury on 1/22/2009. The current diagnoses are chronic pain syndrome, migraine, degeneration of cervical intervertebral disc, arthropathy (unspecified), disorders of the bursae and tendons in the shoulder region, intracranial injury, major depressive disorder, and anxiety. According to the progress report dated 2/24/2015, the injured worker complains of neck pain with radiation to his shoulders, and occasionally his right arm. He reports tingling in his right arm. The pain is rated 7-8/10 on a subjective pain scale. Additionally, he reports right shoulder pain, depression, and severe migraines. Depression is stable. He denies suicidal ideations or plans, but states that he has nothing to live for. He reports difficulty concentrating, learning, and poor memory. Headaches are mainly on the right side, throbbing, and associated with light and sound sensitivity, nausea, and fatigue. He has more than 16 migraines a month. The current medications are Imitrex, Topamax, and Cambia. Treatment to date has included medication management, steroid injection (no relief), and MRI of the cervical spine. Per notes, he is awaiting a trial of bilateral C3-C4-C5 medial branch blocks. The plan of care includes Imitrex, Cambia, and psychiatric consultation.

IMR ISSUES, DECISIONS AND RATIONALES

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

Cambia 50 mg oral powder, #30 with 3 refills: Upheld

Claims Administrator guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines NSAIDs, GI symptoms & cardiovascular risk Page(s): 70-71.

MAXIMUS guideline: Decision based on MTUS Chronic Pain Treatment Guidelines NSAIDs (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs) Page(s): 67-72. Decision based on Non-MTUS Citation Epocrates Online, Cambia.

Decision rationale: The injured worker sustained a work related injury on 1/22/2009. The medical records provided indicate the diagnosis of chronic pain syndrome, migraine, degeneration of cervical intervertebral disc, arthropathy (unspecified), disorders of the bursae and tendons in the shoulder region, intracranial injury, major depressive disorder, and anxiety. The medical records provided for review do not indicate a medical necessity for Cambia 50 mg oral powder, #30 with 3 refills. Cambia is a powdery form of Diclofenac recommended by epocrates for the treatment of Acute Migraine. It is not mentioned in the MTUS or the Official Disability Guideline. However, the generic drug, Diclofenac, and some other of its brands, are recommended by the MTUS for the treatment of osteoarthritis and ankylosing Spondylitis, but not for the treatment of any other medical condition. Migraine is not regarded as a work related medical condition therefore it is usually treated under the individuals health insurance, but not under the workers compensation system.